BECAUSE OF ONE

ONE DONOR. MANY LIVES.

WISCONSIN ADVOCACY RESOURCES

This guide connects Wisconsin residents with official registration information, education organizations, donation professionals, clinical resources, and family support. It also provides a practical plan for organizing local outreach. Start with the organization that matches your question rather than contacting every program at once.

Official state starting points

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

➔ DHS manages and promotes the Wisconsin Donor Registry with state and community partners. Its donation program page links to the registry, state FAQs, registration data, and donation organizations. Use its FAQ when explaining Wisconsin registration eligibility, authorization, and management options.

Wisconsin Donor Registry

➔ Use the official registry to record or review a decision. The state online route requires the identification and eligibility described in its instructions. For questions about a record, use the registry or DHS guidance. An awareness organization cannot look up or change someone's record simply because they completed a contact form.

Wisconsin registration data

➔ DHS links county-level registered donor information and a donor designation query. These describe registration, not the number of people who actually donated or received a transplant. Check the report date, population definition, and unit before using a figure in a presentation.

Choose a route by need

- **Registration or status question:** Wisconsin Donor Registry and the DHS FAQ.
- **Community presentation or educational materials:** Donate Life Wisconsin or an OPO education team.
- **Donor family questions:** the organization involved in the family's donation.
- **Living donation or recipient treatment:** a transplant program.
- **Eye donation:** an eye bank or the donation organization coordinating the case.

Use current contacts

Staff names and service arrangements change. Prefer the organization's current contact page or inquiry form over an old flyer or a saved email address. State who you are, where you are located, and what you need so your inquiry can be routed correctly.

Read more: Wisconsin DHS donation program | Wisconsin DHS registration FAQ | Wisconsin Donor Registry

Wisconsin donation and medical organizations

UW Organ and Tissue Donation

- ➔ UW OTD provides donation information, donor family services, and community involvement resources. Its donor family page describes ongoing support and facilitated communication. Its involvement page offers education and outreach routes. Ask which team handles your county and the specific service you need.

UW Health transplant services

- ➔ UW Health provides clinical transplant services and patient information. It is a resource for understanding evaluation and transplant care, including living donation questions. A clinical program evaluates individual patients or potential donors; a general awareness conversation does not establish medical eligibility.

Versiti Organ Tissue and Eye Donation

- ➔ Versiti provides donation coordination and public resources, including donor family information. Its family resource page links aftercare materials and explanations of topics such as brain death, circulatory death, and grief. Use its current inquiry route for program-specific support or outreach questions.

Other regional and specialist resources

- ➔ LifeSource serves a region that includes parts of western Wisconsin. Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin provides eye donation and corneal transplant information. These can be appropriate supplementary resources when their service or subject fits the question.

Find the right OPO

Use the DHS directory and HRSA's state OPO directory to identify the relevant organization. Service areas and arrangements can change, so confirm coverage rather than relying on an undated county list. Ask whether the organization handles organ donation, tissue recovery, eye donation, or a particular combination.

A useful first inquiry

Explain your city or county, whether you are asking about education, volunteering, family services, or clinical information, and whether there is a deadline. If the first organization is not the right fit, ask for a referral. Avoid including medical records or identification documents in a general introductory message.

Read more: UW Organ and Tissue Donation | UW Health transplant services | Versiti donation information | LifeSource | Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin | HRSA find an OPO

Find volunteering and educational opportunities

Donate Life Wisconsin lists educational resources, speaker requests, and contacts for volunteer opportunities through member organizations. UW OTD and Versiti also provide involvement information. Availability depends on the program and the time of year; confirm an opportunity before making plans.

Questions before you volunteer

- What activities are currently available, and which match my experience?
- Is orientation, training, screening, or an age requirement involved?
- What commitment is expected, including travel and event preparation?
- Who supervises volunteers and handles technical questions?
- What should I do if someone shares a private health or family situation?
- Are remote, occasional, or accessible participation options available?

Prepare a speaker request

- Provide the audience type and approximate size, topic, location, dates, time available, and whether the event is in person or online. Describe accessibility or language needs. Ask whether the program provides materials and what the host should arrange.

- A school or community group may benefit from a focused session about one topic rather than an attempt to cover every aspect of transplantation. Agree on the purpose with the speaker so the presentation and questions fit the audience.

Plan a small local activity

Choose an existing group you already know, such as a class, workplace, service organization, or community gathering. Ask its organizer what would be useful. Start with a short education segment or resource table and a clear way for people to learn more.

If you include registration links, direct visitors to the official registry. Let them make a private decision without an expectation to register publicly or explain why they decline. Track the activity you actually held instead of claiming unverified registration or donation outcomes.

Event information

Use current calendars for possible events and confirm details with the organizer before attending or promoting them. Dates, locations, participation rules, and volunteer roles may change after a page is published.

Read more: Donate Life Wisconsin education | Wisconsin volunteer directory | Donate Life Wisconsin calendar | UW OTD get involved | Versiti community involvement

Build a Wisconsin outreach plan

Define the purpose

- ➔ Write one sentence describing the learning goal. Examples include understanding donor registration, learning what tissue donation can help treat, or preparing for a family conversation. Identify what you can explain and which questions require a professional.

Assemble accurate material

- ➔ Use the state FAQ for Wisconsin registration. Use Donate Life America, OrganDonor.gov, OPTN, or a relevant medical organization for clinical or process explanations. Check the date and context of every statistic. If you cannot verify a claim, omit it until you can.

Arrange permission and accessibility

- ➔ Get the host's approval for the event and its publicity. Ask permission before using another organization's logo, a person's image, or their story. Use readable type, descriptive links, clear language, and materials people can take home. Plan a private way to ask questions.

Prepare for common questions

- ➔ Know where to refer concerns about care before death, how death is determined, age, medical conditions, funeral arrangements, living donation, and registration changes. If you do not know an answer, say so and offer the appropriate source. Do not improvise an individualized medical or legal answer.

Review what happened

- ➔ Afterward, note the audience reached, resources used, questions raised, and what needs correction. Ask participants what was useful and what remained confusing. These observations can improve the next event even when you have no verified registration count.

If you want to discuss a policy issue

Begin with the actual policy or proposal and a current official explanation. Use OPTN public comment for relevant national proposals and an appropriate official channel for other issues. Clearly identify whether you are speaking personally or with authorization for an organization. A local educational event does not need to endorse a specific policy position.

Read more: Donate Life America educational materials | Wisconsin DHS registration FAQ | OPTN patient resources | OPTN public comment

Family support and clinical questions

If your family has experienced donation, start with the organization that coordinated it. Ask about aftercare, remembrance, available updates, and correspondence procedures. Different services may have different eligibility or timing. Public resources can be helpful even when you need a referral elsewhere for individual support. For a transplant recipient or potential living donor, contact the clinical program about evaluation, care, risks, medicines, and follow-up. Community advocates can help someone find the appropriate program but should not interpret a person's eligibility from a story or medical checklist.

Wisconsin resource directory

Read more: Wisconsin DHS donation program | Wisconsin DHS registration FAQ | Wisconsin Donor Registry | UW Organ and Tissue Donation | UW OTD donor families | UW Health transplant services | Versiti donation information | Versiti donor family resources | Donate Life Wisconsin education | Wisconsin volunteer directory | Donate Life Wisconsin calendar | Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin | LifeSource | HRSA find an OPO

A simple planning worksheet

Complete these prompts before your next activity:

- ☐ Audience and location: Who is this for, and where will it happen?
- ☐ Learning goal: What should people understand afterward?
- ☐ Professional partner: Who can review material or answer technical questions?
- ☐ Source list: Which official pages support the claims you plan to share?
- ☐ Permissions: Which stories, images, or logos require approval?
- ☐ Accessibility: What would make the event easier to participate in?
- ☐ Follow-up: Where will unanswered questions go?
- ☐ Reporting: Which activity measures can you honestly document?

Keep this sheet focused on organizing the activity. Store any separately authorized contact information appropriately and avoid recording participants' health details merely because they attended.

Reviewed October 21, 2026. External organizations have their own programs and requirements; links do not imply affiliation. General education does not replace individual medical guidance.

One donor. Countless lives.