In 2019, nearly 40,000 transplants brought renewed life to patients and their families and communities (from nearly 11,900 deceased and nearly 7,400 living donors).

More than 110,000 men, women and children await lifesaving organ transplants.

Nearly 60% of patients awaiting lifesaving transplants are minorities.

Another person is added to the nation’s organ transplant waiting list every 10 minutes.

Sadly, 8,000 people die each year (on average 22 people each day — almost one person each hour) because the organs they need are not donated in time.

More than 80% of patients on the waiting list are waiting for a kidney. The average waiting time for a kidney from a deceased donor is 3 to 5 years. A kidney from a living donor offers patients an alternative to years of dialysis and time on the national transplant waiting list (the living donor’s remaining kidney will enlarge, doing the work of two healthy kidneys).

12% of patients waiting are in need of a liver. Living donation of part of the liver can help these patients (the remaining portion of the donor liver will regenerate and regain full function).

More than one-third of all deceased donors are age 50 or older; 7% are age 65 or older.

Each year, there are approximately 30,000 tissue donors and more than 1.75 million tissue transplants; the surgical need for donated tissue is steadily rising.

A single tissue donor can help more than 75 people.

More than 85,000 corneas are provided for sight-restoring corneal transplants each year.

More than 156 million people, approximately 60% of the U.S. adult population, are registered organ, eye and tissue donors.*

To register your decision to save and heal lives, visit RegisterMe.org. To learn more about organ, eye, tissue and living donation, visit DonateLife.net.

* Living donation is not included in a donor registration.

Data from the Donate Life America Registry Overview Report and the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) as of January 15, 2020.