



Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors:

Be Aware and Share Patch Challenge

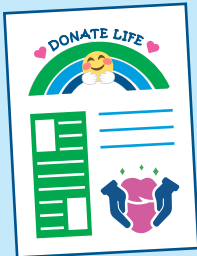
Inspired by Girl Scout Ava W. and her book, *Ava and Grandpa Harjeet's Journey*

The human body can do amazing things, including saving the lives of others through organ donation! Organ donation is when people share a part of their body to help someone who is sick feel better and live a long, healthy life.

The Be Aware and Share patch program is designed to help Girl Scouts understand organ donation, its life-changing impact, and how to share what they've learned with others. All Girl Scout levels can complete the activities below to earn their Be Aware and Share fun patch. Once completed, patches are available for purchase at the GSNC shop.

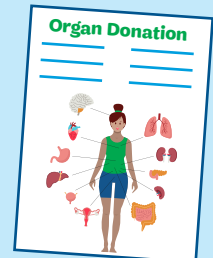


Complete four of the activities below.



♥ **Create a poster with messages about organ donation**—highlight how it can change lives, how to become a donor, and how raising awareness can strengthen your community.

♥ Talk with your troop or other Girl Scouts about organ donation. **Discover and research key facts about organs that can be donated**, then create a list to share and help inform others.

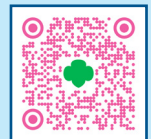


♥ **Research the steps to becoming an organ donor** and create a helpful list. Include key things to know, important guidelines, and any qualifications or requirements.



♥ Watch Girl Scout Ava W.'s story, then **take a moment to reflect on what you learned about organ donation and why it matters.**

To view Ava's inspiring video, scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/gsnc-avas-story.



donors and recipients.

♥ **Create a community support tree.** Research local healthcare organizations or hospitals in Nassau County that help with transplants. Gather their contact information and find out about ways you can help

♥ Wear the colors blue and green—the Donate Life colors—to show your support. Take a picture, share on social media, and tag us @girlscoutsofnassaucounty. **In the caption, share three new facts you learned while completing this challenge to continue spreading awareness.**



Quick Facts

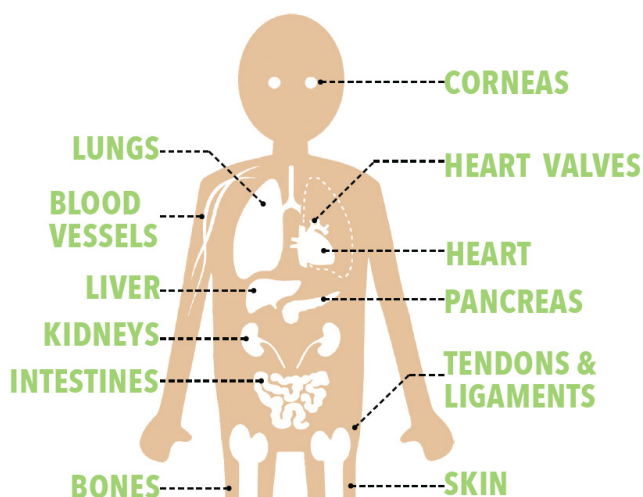
organ, eye, and tissue donation & transplantation

The Basics

- › One organ donor can save up to **eight lives**. One tissue donor can improve the lives of up to **75 people**.
- › Nationally, most patients wait **one to two years** for an organ transplant. In NYS, patients wait **as long as five years**.

The Wait

- › **112,000** people on the national waiting list for organs; every ten minutes, someone is added to the wait list
- › **9,700** people waiting in NYS
- › **+1 MILLION** people benefit from tissue transplants each year



The Truths

Doctors will do everything in their power to save you

Organ, eye & tissue donation only occurs after the death of a patient is declared by a physician who is not affiliated with donation.

It is supported by most religions

Most major religions support organ donation including Judaism, Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, and more.

Don't rule yourself out

Your age, medical condition or health status should not stop you from signing up if you wish to be a donor. At the time of death, donation professionals will determine donor suitability.

Funeral services are possible

Donation does not disfigure the body or delay funeral arrangements. Open-casket viewing is possible. Families of donors are not responsible for medical costs related to donation.



NYS ranks last in the nation in percent of residents registered as donors



Every 17 hours someone in NYS dies waiting for an organ

40%

of NYS residents are registered donors

58%

of residents across the USA



Quick Facts Organ, Eye, and Tissue Donation & Children

The Basics

17

On average 17 people in the US die everyday waiting for a life-saving transplant.

27%

Of children waiting for a transplant are under age 5.

2,100

Children waiting for a transplant in the US.

1,800

The average yearly number of pediatric transplant in the US.

The Statistics

60%

Over 60% of children waiting for a heart transplant receive a heart within 12 months.



Every year, 900 young pediatric donors and their families make the extraordinary decision to give the gift of life.



Pediatric transplant survival rates are improving. Over 90% of children who receive a kidney are still thriving a decade later.



There is a high concentration of infants and children under 5 on the waitlist. This usually requires younger donors due to the need to match body size.



Since 16 and 17-year-olds gained the right to register, thousands of young leaders have stepped up to save lives.



Medical miracles happen at every age. The youngest heart valve recipient was only three years old.

The Region



New York City is a leader in the United States for pediatric organ transplant surgeries.

The Need



There are over 2,000 children waiting for lifesaving organs in the United States with over 27% of them under the age of 5.



LiveOnNY™ | Life. Pass it On.™

LiveOnNY is a federally designated Organ Procurement Organization (OPO) committed to honoring, saving, and saving lives through organ and tissue donation. Established in 1978, LiveOnNY collaborates with more than 100 hospitals, providing support to organ and tissue donors and their families who choose to give the gift of life to those on the transplant waitlist across the nation. The OPO serves a diverse population of 13 million people in New York City and Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Orange, Putnam, Dutchess, and Rockland counties.

Give the gift of life. Scan or visit [LiveOnNY.org](https://liveonny.org) to save lives.

*<https://www.hrsa.gov/optn?from=optn.transplant.hrsa.gov>

*<https://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/organ-transplants-and-blackafrican-americans>

Want to explore more? Email Karen Cummings at kcummings@liveonny.org.