



We honor life through donation.™

Dear Parent,

Gift of Life Michigan is the not-for-profit federally designated organ and tissue recovery organization in Michigan. We are writing to inform you that the topic of organ and tissue donation will be discussed as part of your child's driver education. This topic is particularly important to students who are your child's age because they will be asked if they would like to register to be an organ and tissue donor when they go in to get their driver's license at the Secretary of State.

We know that organ and tissue donation might not be something you have previously discussed. However, to help your child make a well-informed decision about their donation choice, it is important to have a family discussion about the topic. Organ and tissue donation is a personal choice. Below are some facts to help to get the conversation started:

- Gift of Life Michigan maintains the Michigan Organ Donor Registry. When a person joins the Donor Registry, a red heart donor symbol is added to their driver's license.
- Anyone has the potential to be a donor, regardless of age or health conditions.
- If you are injured and admitted to the hospital, the first priority for the medical team is to save your life. Gift of Life Michigan becomes involved only after those efforts have been exhausted and death has occurred or is imminent. A medical professional determines what can be donated to help others.
- One person can help save and heal up to 75 lives through organ, tissue and eye donation.

It is important to note that minors may join the Donor Registry without parental consent. However, until they turn 18, their parents would make the final decision about donation if something were to occur. We encourage anyone considering the decision to discuss it with their family.

When your child gets their driver's license at the Secretary of State, they will be asked if they would like to join the Donor Registry. If your child decides not to sign up there, they can sign up at any time online at the Gift of Life Michigan website at golm.org, at a local Secretary of State branch office, or through the Donor Registry brochure given to your child at their driver's education class. For further information, please visit Gift of Life Michigan at golm.org.

Sincerely,

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