THE LIVING LEGACY FOUNDATION OF MARYLAND (LLF) is a non-profit health service organization who saves and enhances lives through organ, eye, and tissue donation.

We are passionate about our mission of saving and enhancing lives while honoring the legacy and generosity of our donors.
DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

You might think that the longer someone is in a certain field, their passion might fade. Their goals may get a little less ambitious, their sense of purpose may get a little fuzzy. But in our field of organ, eye, and tissue donation, I would argue that the exact opposite occurs. Our goals grow with each new person added to the waiting list. Our sense of purpose gets stronger with every new individual or family that says “yes” to saving and enhancing lives.

In 2017, our passion for our mission to save and enhance lives through organ, eye, and tissue donation continued to drive us forward. We had the privilege of serving over 2,100 families - providing an opportunity for donation and grief support. As reflected in our numbers, Maryland donors made an impact in the lives of 409 organ transplant recipients and countless more through tissue and eye donation and research. Those numbers alone are humbling, but when you consider the ripple effect of that impact on not just the recipient, but their family, friends, coworkers, neighbors, and community, the enormity is almost overwhelming. Facilitating these donations and transplants is a great responsibility and we are honored to be part of it.

We could not do the work we do without the dedication and support of our staff and volunteers here at The LLF, our hospital transplant partners, and the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration. Our efforts are magnified through partnerships with community organizations, local businesses, and donation supporters who use their voice to raise awareness for our cause throughout Maryland. But above all, our work relies on the generosity and compassion of donors and their families who say “yes” to donation at one of the most challenging times in their lives. They are paramount to everything we do and we are forever grateful.

Some of our most notable accomplishments in 2017 include the creation of a new “Donation University” training model for our new employees, improving efficiency through organization department changes and enhancements to our electronic medical record system, and strengthening existing partnerships to increase donor impact. We also continued our education and outreach through biennial and annual events such as the Hospital Partners Conference, Family Fun Run, Gospel Fest, and more.

We look forward to the opportunities of the year ahead and as always, continue to honor our mission and the donors and their families who make it all possible.

Charlie Alexander
President and CEO
THE NUMBERS

152 ORGAN DONORS

536 TISSUE AND CORNEA DONORS

900 DONORS & DONORS IN SPIRIT

902 TRANSPLANTED ORGANS

767 ORGAN TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS

409 LIVES SAVED BY MARYLAND DONORS

2,100+ FAMILIES SERVED

250+ COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

135K+ NEW REGISTERED DONORS
THE NUMBERS

As we share this data, we ask that you remember behind every number is a story, a person, a family, a member of our community.

Local Organs Transplanted

Total Donors*: 152
Total Transplants: 498

- Kidneys Transplanted: 200
- Livers Transplanted: 133
- Lungs Transplanted: 82
- Hearts Transplanted: 53
- Pancreas' Transplanted: 30

Local Eye and Tissue Donors

Total Eye and Tissue Donors*: 536

- Cornea Donors: 399
- Bone Donors: 305
- Skin Donors: 307
- Heart Valve Donors: 56
- Vein Donors: 46
- Bone Marrow: 17

Local Donor Contributions to Research

Total Donors Who Contributed to Research*: 15
Total Donated Gifts: 25

*Many of our organ, eye, and tissue donors were able to donate multiple organs and/or tissues.
THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We are very appreciative to work with incredible teams of dedicated, hardworking, and talented people here at The LLF. Many of our 150+ staff work behind-the-scenes facilitating donation and transplantation, supporting donor families, and educating the public about the great need for donors.

Our teams work with hospitals, transplant centers, funeral homes, MVAs, donor families, recipients, and the general community.

Below are just a handful of the accomplishments we are most proud of from 2017.

THE LLF VOTED ONE OF BALTIMORE’S BEST PLACES TO WORK

In 2017, and for a sixth year, The LLF was honored as a Top Workplace by the Baltimore Sun. This distinction is awarded to organizations in the Baltimore area whose employees have voted their workplace as an employer of choice. This award embodies The LLF team’s dedication to our core values and mission every day.
INNOVATION IN TRAINING AND EDUCATION THROUGH “DONATION UNIVERSITY”
Starting in November 2017, the implementation of The LLF’s Donation University marks an important milestone for our training and education programs. This innovative model ensures training is provided to both new and current staff in a standardized manner, utilizing diverse modalities including didactic sessions, role play, demonstrations, skills labs, and simulation. A primary goal of the program is to increase new team member competence and confidence while decreasing the length of the orientation and training period. Initial results are very promising, demonstrating that learners are consistently able to translate their new knowledge and skills into practice. As importantly, they are also displaying both increased confidence and competence, which contributes greatly to job satisfaction and retention.

INTRODUCING THE PROCESSING AND OPERATIONAL LOGISTICS TEAM
In August 2017, the Facilities and Lab Services departments merged into a new unified team: Processing and Operational Logistics. This change was implemented to increase efficiencies in the organization, facilitate greater support for our clinical teams, and to create additional growth opportunities for The LLF staff. The team, operational 24/7/365, now provides support services to our clinical teams in all operations including maintaining organizational equipment, managing materials, facilitating kidney biopsies, performing equipment sterilization, and running the skin processing laboratory.

This important change to our organization has already allowed for improved efficiencies and provided additional on-site support for our teams.
NEW DONOR MEMORIAL WALLS

We work closely with our Maryland hospitals to cultivate a culture of donation. Part of this includes creating expressions of honor and gratitude for our donors. In 2017, new Donor Memorial Walls were constructed and dedicated at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Meritus Regional Medical Center, and the Greater Baltimore Medical Center. The Johns Hopkins Hospital, University of Maryland St. Joseph’s Medical Center, University of Maryland Medical Center, and Anne Arundel Medical Center all updated names on their existing walls to reflect recent donor patients.

UPDATES TO DONOR RECORD SYSTEM TRUE NORTH

The LLF utilizes an electronic system, True North, to manage our donor records. In 2017, several important updates went live in the system. These updates include:

• Streamlining the follow up of donor information to local and national transplant centers;
• Electronic tracking of organ allocation and recipients.

These updates and enhancements increase efficiency by allowing for real-time notification to various departments and ensure that patient safety requirements are being met.
OVER 2,000 VOLUNTEER HOURS BY DONATE LIFE AMBASSADORS

2017 was an amazing year for The LLF’s volunteer program, the Donate Life Ambassadors. Our team worked tirelessly to educate communities throughout the state of Maryland about the importance of organ, eye, and tissue donation. With their commitment and enthusiasm for the mission, our volunteers accumulated over 2,290 hours and hosted over 250 community outreach events, including MVA registration drives, health fair information tables, and more. Several volunteers came into The LLF offices to assist with administrative tasks, with some dedicating as many as 20 hours per week. We also welcomed 72 new Donate Life Ambassadors to the program.

MAKING A “BETTER IMPACT” IN OUR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

In March, the Donate Life Ambassador program took a step forward by incorporating Better Impact’s “Volunteer Impact” software in our day to day operations. Every Ambassador was given their own profile on MyVolunteerPage.com where they can sign up for Ambassador activities, log their hours, and stay up to date with what’s going on at The LLF. Volunteer Impact also allows us to run a series of reports to analyze key statistics throughout the year to see where and how our program can improve.
STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS TO INCREASE DONOR IMPACT

We are proud to provide a high level of service to families through the gifts of research, tissue donation, innovation, and improving recipient outcomes.

- We managed over 4,000 referrals from over 50 participating organ procurement organizations to facilitate the placement of organs with national researchers Promethera.
- Through our continued partnership with the Washington Regional Transplant Community (WRTC), we helped to manage over 13,000 referrals and offer the option of tissue donation to families in the DC metro area.
- We expanded our digital pathology services to include WRTC; the availability of this service will help to decrease decision making time and improve utilization and outcomes.

THE LLF’S BIENNIAL HOSPITAL PARTNERS CONFERENCE: CREATING CONNECTIONS

In November, The LLF hosted its Biennial Hospital Partners Conference entitled Creating Connections: The Journey through Donation to Transplantation. More than 250 hospital staff members including nurses, physicians, social workers, respiratory therapists, chaplains, and many more from 30 local hospitals attended the event. Presentations included topics such as the opioid epidemic, the HOPE Act, vascular composite allotransplantation, working with the Medical Examiner’s office, and the donation process from referral to transplant. The LLF also honored our hospital partners for their extraordinary work and support through the IMPACT Awards.
GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

The LLF was honored to continue giving back to our community in 2017. In addition to our ongoing work with My Sister’s Circle, Sharp Dressed Man, and Jubilee Arts, our Social Responsibility Committee facilitated numerous volunteer opportunities for our staff with outside non-profit organizations in our service area. A few of these include:

HOLIDAY CARDS FOR KIDS
Our staff, volunteers, and Team Maryland members decorated and signed 100 holiday cards for pediatric transplant patients at the Johns Hopkins Hospital.

PENN NORTH KIDS SAFE ZONE
In August, our staff volunteers threw an ice cream party and played games with 40+ kids at Penn North Recovery’s Kids Safe Zone.

OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY EVENTS
The LLF supported various efforts across Maryland to recognize Overdose Awareness Day on August 31st. We also raised the Donate Life flag at our offices in honor of donors who have died of an overdose.

PAJAMA DRIVE FOR CASEY CARES
In December, The LLF held a pajama drive and “wrapping party” to wrap donated pajamas for the Kami’s Jammies program with Casey Cares. These pajamas were gifted to critically ill children and their families.
COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

We are fortunate to have many opportunities to work in the community throughout the year. These events allow us to raise awareness and encourage everyone to save lives and inspire hope by registering as a donor.

Below are summaries of three of our biggest community outreach events from 2017.

DONATE LIFE MONTH
Throughout the month of April, The LLF participates in National Donate Life Month, an annual observance featuring local, regional, and national activities to raise awareness for donation. During April 2017, we worked closely with hospital and community partners to host over 70 outreach and special events to spread our message.

FAMILY FUN RUN
On September 9, The LLF gathered with donor families, transplant recipients, hospital staff, MVAs, donation supporters, and the general community for the ninth annual Donate Life Family Fun Run. Over 2,600 supporters participated by running or walking our 5K or 1K course through Baltimore.

GOSPEL FEST
On November 11, The LLF participated in National Donor Sabbath through our seventh annual Gospel Fest, honoring and celebrating the lives of local donors and the impact they continue to have on the Baltimore community. We were joined by over 200 people from the community who enjoyed music and speakers who shared their donation story.
THANK YOU

Thank you for an amazing year. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve our generous, compassionate, and dedicated community and look forward to continuing to honor the legacy of our donors and the gift of donation in the years to come.

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