



## Message Points

- [LifeGift](#) is a nonprofit, 501(c)3 organization that offers hope to the thousands of people in Texas and beyond who need lifesaving organ transplants, and to countless others who need lifesaving tissue transplants.
- Established in 1987 as Gulf Coast Independent Organ Procurement Organization, LifeGift is approved by the [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services \(CMS\)](#) and accredited by the [American Association of Tissue Banks \(AATB\)](#).
- As the designated organ procurement organization (OPO) for North (Fort Worth), Southeast (Houston) and West Texas (Lubbock, Amarillo), we partner with more than 240 hospitals across 109 counties.
- LifeGift is a founding member of [Donate Life Texas](#), the organization that manages the State's organ, eye and tissue donor registry. Texans can register to be organ, tissue and eye donors online by visiting the [Donate Life – Texas Registry](#) or when they renew their driver license or personal identification card.
- Currently, there are more than 13 million registered organ donors in Texas.
- Despite an increase in organ donations, there are more than 10,000 Texans awaiting a lifesaving transplant.
- On average, one organ donor can save the lives of up to eight people and hundreds of people can be saved from the gift of tissue donation.
- LifeGift's connection to donor families extends beyond the immediate time surrounding donation. LifeGift's aftercare program provides support to donor families by connecting them to grief resources, offering information on how their loved one has and will help others, facilitating communication with their loved one's recipients, and providing them with opportunities to honor and remember their loved one such as our annual donor medal ceremonies.
- LifeGift's Ambassadors of Hope volunteer program has more than 700 participants many of whom are donor family members or transplant recipients.