



Saving Lives and Inspiring Hope

2024
Annual Report

LifeShare
Network

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DEAR LIFESHARE COMMUNITY

A Message From Our Leader



Jeffrey P. Orłowski
President and Chief
Executive Officer

What an incredible year! In 2024, we had our eleventh consecutive record-setting year across our organization, reaching new milestones in research and innovation, fundraising, organ and tissue recovery and transplantation, and bringing awareness of donation to our region.

The successes we celebrate have positioned us to continue to grow as leaders within our profession, with new technologies, greater outreach and a dedicated team of LifeSavers ready to embark on another year of setting new records and saving more lives.

I am pleased to share our 2024 Annual Report with you today. Within these pages, you will find our team's achievements, a behind-the-scenes look at our Foundation's activities, and most importantly, stories of those at the heart of our mission. As we reflect on our accomplishments together, I encourage you to take a moment to remember the donor heroes who selflessly gave the gift of life to others, transplant recipients and all families impacted by donation.

Our mission to save lives and inspire hope has enhanced the lives of many, and it is only with your generous support and commitment to our community that we can continue to make a difference for those who need it most.

From all of us at LifeShare: thank you. We wish you a year of health, happiness and a renewed passion for our lifesaving work.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey P. Orłowski
President and Chief Executive Officer

SAVING MORE LIVES THAN EVER BEFORE



645

LIVES SAVED IN 2024
THANKS TO
273 DONOR HEROES

11th Consecutive Record-Breaking Year

In 2024, LifeShare saved a record number of lives and enhanced many more through the gift of organ, eye and tissue donation. Thanks to those who made the choice to register their decision to be a donor and the dedication of our volunteers and staff, we are able to advance our mission to save lives and inspire hope.

273

Organ Donors

1,027

Tissue Donors

746

Organs Transplanted

478

Organs for Research

240

Birth Tissue Donors

85

record number of organs transplanted in one month

September 2024

190

record number of vessels recovered in 2024

Kay Halko, Volunteer and Transplant Recipient



DONATION SUMMARY



Surpassed **100**
livers perfused in 2024



159

Oklahoma
Hospitals



89

Transplant
Centers worked
with in 2024



48

Secondary
Education
Presentations



95

Total
Outreach
Events



1,243

LifeShare University
Online Training
Participants



90+
Volunteers

completed a collective
330 service hours
in 2024



LifeShare is pleased to collaborate with driver's license partners at more than 275 **Service Oklahoma** and **Tag Agency** locations across the state. Our partners ask each person one very important question: *"Would you like to register to be an organ, eye and tissue donor?"*



12

Research
Exclusive Donors

78

Hearts

124

Lungs

174

Livers

17

Pancreata

352

Kidneys

1

Intestine

945

Skin

703

Musculoskeletal

183

Heart Valves



**TALITHA
LIVER RECIPIENT**

Celebrating Thirty Years of Health and Hope

In early 1994, Talitha Brown was a full-time working mom, busy with a toddler, traveling and leading a normal and healthy life. It was only during a routine outpatient procedure that Talitha's doctor took note of her enlarged liver. Asymptomatic and healthy, Talitha struggled to understand the severity of her journey ahead.

Unfortunately, medical tests and procedures only raised more questions, leaving Talitha and her family discouraged and hopeless. Her health quickly declined in the following months, eventually resulting in being diagnosed with a rare, one-in-a-million condition that affects adults. Talitha's diagnosis marked the beginning of her fighting for her life.

By summer, Talitha needed a miracle: a liver transplant. Talitha was officially listed for a transplant and was waiting for one, when her health began to decline further. Doctors told her they had done everything they knew to do. Talitha began preparing her goodbyes and organizing her affairs.

Five days later, Talitha's life changed forever. She was given the gift of life through organ donation from a selfless donor hero. She received a successful liver transplant on June 30, 1994. 30 years later, Talitha continues to celebrate life through the gift of organ donation.

“

Within these last 30 years, I have raised my daughter, remarried, gained a stepson, and have four beautiful grandchildren. I am still working, traveling and enjoying a second chance at life. I am forever grateful!

*Talitha,
Liver Recipient*

”





WE SAVE LIVES AND INSPIRE HOPE

VISION To be recognized as a sustainable global leader in saving lives and inspiring hope through innovation, inclusion and compassion.

CORE PURPOSE
Why We Exist

We Save Lives and Inspire Hope

BUSINESS DEFINITION
What We Do

- We maximize the gifts of donated organs and tissues.
- We honor and support donors and their families.
- We promote donation through advocacy and education.
- We drive progress through research and innovation.

CORE VALUES
How We Behave

- Can-do
- Passionate
- Accountable
- Adaptable

STRATEGIC ANCHORS

How We Succeed
Embrace Change
Build Relationships
Value People

About LifeShare Network

At LifeShare Network, Inc, we believe in saving lives and inspiring hope. As a leading non-profit organization, our team fosters a strong commitment to serving donor heroes and their families. We ensure lifesaving gifts reach those in greatest need by collaborating with 159 hospitals and numerous transplant centers across the nation.

We are at the forefront of transplant research, innovation and education, made possible by our three subsidiaries: LifeShare Innovations, LifeShare of Oklahoma and LifeShare Tissue Services, which all exist from community support of the LifeShare Foundation.



EMPOWERING OUR TEAM TO SAVE LIVES

▲ *Marty Benoit, Chief Financial Officer; Nikkia Oliver, EMR Program Coordinator; Chad Muse, Process Improvement Analyst; Dena Burch, Director of Finance*

LifeShare is Awarded Top Workplace for the 6th Consecutive Year



In August, 173 LifeShare employees voluntarily participated in a survey to share their opinions on our organization's leadership, teamwork, benefits, growth and overall satisfaction.

LifeShare was once again recognized as a Top Workplace in 2024 for Culture Excellence, with an increase in positive responses in each of the categories surveyed. We are proud to celebrate the dedication of our team and the hard work they put in each day to further our mission to save lives.

Commitment to Process Improvement

Our team has worked to create more efficient and effective workflows for departments across the organization. In October, we hosted a group from the Oklahoma Quality Foundation to receive and implement feedback for process improvement opportunities that will help us save more lives across the state.

We were selected for the Achievement of Excellence Milestone Award in December.

LEAN Thinking

Each year, our staff participates in Lean Six Sigma training. We awarded a total of 34 white belts and one green belt for their efforts!

▲ *Jason Morton, Vice President of Quality Systems, pictured with Rachael Ketcham, Data Analyst II, celebrating her accomplishment of receiving green belt status.*





MAXIMIZING LIFESAVING OPPORTUNITIES

LifeShare Network Partners with New Mexico Donor Services in Groundbreaking Collaboration

In June, LifeShare Network and New Mexico Donor Services worked together to facilitate the final, life-saving gift of a 15-year-old donor hero. The donated liver was flown from New Mexico to Oklahoma, perfused at LifeShare Network's Clinical Innovation Center, and allocated to one of LifeShare's transplant center partners. This first-of-its-kind partnership leveraged normothermic machine preservation technology to extend the viability of the recovered liver.

In 2024, LifeShare utilized normothermic machine preservation technology to successfully perfuse more than 100 livers, extending the life of the organ and resulting in more lives saved across the country.



Automated Referral Program Transforms Organ Donation for Oklahomans

LifeShare introduced groundbreaking technology to Oklahoma: InVita's Automated iReferral® interoperability platform. With the introduction of this program, hospitals can instantly and securely transfer patient critical evaluation information to LifeShare's team, eliminating the initial phone call and cutting the time spent addressing referrals from 75 hours per month to just 19 minutes. Since launching the program, we have seen higher referral and timeliness rates, resulting in more efficient services for our hospital partners, better family support and more lives saved.



INNOVATING POSITIVE CHANGE

LifeShare Innovations Hosts First-Ever Summit for Frontline Transplant Professionals

The *Transplant Tomorrow: Pioneering Pathways in Organ Donation and Advancements* event featured hands-on innovative equipment demonstrations and sessions facilitated by leaders in organ and tissue recovery. Medical professionals from organ procurement organizations across the country were educated on organ perfusion, an emerging technology that maximizes opportunities for donation after cardiac death.

Innovative Packaging Technology Collaboration to Saves Lives

A groundbreaking collaboration between LifeShare Network and MaxQ will change the way people receive life-saving organ transplants. In November, the two organizations began testing new equipment that will maximize time and shipping capabilities between the recovery of an organ and transplantation. The new shipping equipment has been validated against Oklahoma's most brutal conditions. The boxes are currently validated for up to 48 hours, can be used up to 15 times and are recyclable, ensuring a sustainable solution for transportation of organs and tissue for transplant.

Islet Research

LifeShare completed the first leg of islet cell preservation research to evaluate the impact of preservation solution on the health and function of islet cells. The data collected will help identify therapeutic interventions to prolong preservation times for transplant-eligible pancreata.



Through our research, we're saving more lives than ever before. The tangible impact and lifesaving technologies we've provided for medical professionals and transplant recipients has been remarkable.

Clint Hostetler,
Chief Operating
Officer





ENHANCING LIVES THROUGH TISSUE DONATION

▲ *David Wangen, Inventory Control Associate; Jeff Legg, Manager of Operational Services; Allisen Wayda, Manager of Tissue Recovery; Ashlea Alexander, Tissue Recovery Coordinator Lead; Robert Deaton, Inventory Control Coordinator; Blair Anderson, Tissue Recovery Coordinator II*



LifeShare's Tissue Recovery team brought home three industry awards issued by MTF Biologics in recognition of excellence in the recovery of tissues: the Emerald Award of Excellence, the Golden Glove and the Trinity Award. We recovered a record-breaking 135 vessels and 218 nerves - a testament to the dedication and precision exemplified by our Tissue Recovery Coordinators.

LIFESAVING GIFT TO LIFELONG FRIENDSHIP

When Mikala learned that her childhood friend, Tony, was suffering a sudden, fatal illness, she knew she wanted to do everything she could to make sure his wife, Cristil, did not feel alone.

"To know Tony was to truly love him," Mikala said. "[Cristil and I] remained in close contact during her grieving process. My heart smiled when she told me that Tony had mentioned me on their first date. At that time, I was going through one of the hardest seasons in my life and he was there for me through it all. Just as he had done for so many others, I have no doubt."

Shortly after losing her husband, Cristil's own physical and mental health quickly declined. She began dialysis to treat the kidney failure she had battled for five years, going to multiple four-hour treatment sessions per week. She was placed on the kidney transplant list and began the long process of finding a match.

Mikala discovered through a Facebook post that Cristil needed a kidney transplant. After realizing the two were the same blood type, Mikala began to pray about the possibility of her becoming a donor. Although she and her husband had many questions about the process, Mikala never felt any hesitation about her decision.

The process of testing to ensure the pair were a match took just over a year, and the living donation finally took place on June 17, 2024, at a transplant center in Oklahoma. The day after the successful transplant, Cristil was already up and walking. Mikala says when she saw Cristil walk into her hospital room, and how much healthier she already looked, she knew she made the right decision.

"[It was] the greatest gift anyone could ever give me," Cristil said. "It gave me my life back. Not only are Mikala and I kidney matches, but we are also close friends. She has helped me tremendously through my darkest season of life, just as Tony helped her. I feel that this is Tony's way of saying 'I'm still with you, and you will be okay!'"

In the months since the successful living donation, Mikala and Cristil are in excellent health. The pair grew closer during the testing process and leaned on each other during difficult times.

Having returned to normal life, they talk several times per week and see each other in person whenever possible, going shopping, spending time in the city or just grabbing a coffee.

"My life, physically, has been impacted so minimally," Mikala told us, "but my awareness of people who are battling kidney disease has increased drastically. I want to share my experience so others know how safe and life changing living donation can be. I'd do it again in a heartbeat!"



ROSA, MOTHER OF DONOR HERO, JAZMYNE



A Family's Journey from Grief to Hope

Jazmyne Montoya was an independent, kind, and courageous nineteen-year-old. Her loved ones, from Yukon, Oklahoma, say she had launched a career as a nail artist and had a growing clientele. She was joyful and optimistic about her future.

When Jazmyne passed away from health complications in April, her parents honored her wish to be an organ, eye and tissue donor – a decision she compassionately made when receiving her driver's license at sixteen.

"We have so many amazing memories of Jazmyne," her mother, Rosa, said. "When I was five months pregnant and had my first ultrasound picture, you could see she was smiling. When I see more recent pictures, she has that same smile."

Jazmyne's loved ones are proud of the impact she made in her nineteen years. She was often found at the park with her sister and friends and loved to visit the lake. She adored her puppy, Bruno. Jazmyne was creative, playing the flute and expressing herself through makeup. She was the person who always showed up for her friends, making time so everyone felt special and supported.

Because of her choice to be a donor, Jazmyne left an incredible legacy. Through her gift, she has saved the lives of two kidney transplant recipients and two infants in need of heart valves, and many others may be able to receive life-enhancing tissue transplants in the future.

"I've been most impacted by how many people are mis-educated about organ and tissue donation," said Rosa. "Most people think it's only organ donation, so they don't register because they were told certain things. For example, if you have liver issues, you can't donate any organs. But when you explain that you can also help others with tissue, bone and skin, they will reconsider. So, sharing my daughter's story has been eye opening to some."



I choose to volunteer because my daughter chose to be an organ donor, and we honored her wish. So now I honor her in any way I can by sharing her story. Her life was not in vain, and she has helped and will help so many people. It also helps me grieve by sharing her story and saying her name, so she won't be forgotten. It helps me be closer to her in some ways!

*Rosa Montoya,
Mother of Donor Hero,
Jazmyne*





AN ORGANIZATION CENTERED ON SUPPORT

Offering Comfort and Hope

Our comprehensive Aftercare program supports families in the grieving process and in their journey post-donation, offering compassion through the process of donation. This year, Aftercare began a new tradition: a donor family ceremony at our annual Little Red Heart Race. At the event, families of donor heroes had an opportunity to share their memories of their loved ones through our remembrance tree and candle lighting ceremony.

LifeShare provides a variety of support services to families, including donation outcomes and grief materials. We facilitate correspondence between donor families and the recipients of their loved one's gift.



◀ Little Red Heart 5k participant lights a candle in honor of a 2024 donor hero.

Creating Comfort

Blankets are made by volunteers as a tangible expression of comfort and compassion and presented to donor families through this program. Often, donor families use these blankets as comfort in the final days with their loved one in the hospital. They also utilize the blankets during hospital honor walks.



Brooke Kuwitzky, Public Relations Coordinator ▶



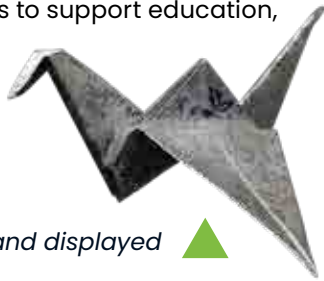
INSPIRING HOPE AND HEALING

April is a special time for our community because it gives donor and recipient families an opportunity to celebrate the gift of life, share their story and get involved with LifeShare in new ways. Each year, we encourage Oklahomans to register their decision to be a donor, bringing hope to those waiting for a life-saving or life-enhancing transplant.

In Japanese culture, folding origami cranes is believed to grant a wish or bring good fortune. Similarly, organ donation represents the gift of life, granting hope and a second chance to those in need.

Throughout the month of April, our team, hospital community partners and volunteers educated hundreds of Oklahomans about organ, eye and tissue donation, and inspired them to register as an organ donor.

During Donate Life Month and throughout the year, the LifeShare Foundation raises funds to support education, awareness and research for donation.



1,000 Paper Cranes were folded and displayed 

EDUCATION ON THE ROAD

Over 300 Driver's License Operators Educated on Organ and Tissue Donation

Each year, our team travels to the Service Oklahoma Licensed Operators Conference to educate staff on how to ask the question: *"Would you like to register to be an organ, eye and tissue donor?"* This year we attended all five conferences across the state, educating 300+ Driver's License Operating Partners.



BUILDING A LEGACY OF HOPE AND IMPACT

This year, the LifeShare Foundation has been dedicated to advancing the mission of LifeShare Network to save lives and inspire hope. With generous contributions from our supporters, we have expanded our reach and deepened our impact, empowering our community to understand the importance of organ and tissue donation. Through our campaigns, we raised awareness for millions of individuals, inspiring them to register as donors. Our support programs provided comfort and resources to families. Our efforts have inspired hope, strengthened the LifeShare community and increased a legacy of generosity.



Heather Dean
 Director of Communications
 and Development

This year we are proud to share our achievements:

Increased Awareness: Our traditional and digital media efforts reached communities statewide with 13 million impressions. More Oklahomans are registered than ever before – 68% of Oklahomans have designated their decision to be a donor hero!

Support Programs: This year, we continued to support donor families with

resources to manage grief. Additionally, we were able to greet many of our donor families and honor their loved ones face-to-face at our Little Red Heart event. We have created new opportunities for our donor families and recipients to give back to LifeShare through advocacy and volunteering.

Research Advancements: For the first time, the LifeShare Foundation was able to begin raising funds for donation and transplant innovation.

Throughout this Annual Report, you have seen stories of those who have given and received the gift of life. Talitha, who has lived 30 years with her kidney and been able to travel the world; Rosa, who is new in her grief journey but has been able to volunteer and receive support from LifeShare; and Mikala, who showed a remarkable act of generosity by becoming a living donor.

These miracles are made possible by contributors like you.

As we look to the future, we invite you to join us in our mission to save lives and inspire hope by supporting the LifeShare Foundation. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to our mission and the lives we touch every day.



EMPLOYEE GIVING

Each year, LifeShare employees have an opportunity to participate in the Giving Hope Club, a program that enables our team to support the LifeShare Foundation and give back to our mission.



150

LifeSavers
Enrolled

31% Increase from 2023

Tarah Collins, Employee Experience Curator II, and Holli Short, Employee Experience Training Specialist

Wine Dinner

Each year, the LifeShare Foundation invites our community to join us for a special night out featuring food and wine pairings from local businesses. With the proceeds from the event, the Foundation was able to create more opportunities to educate our state on the need and lifesaving potential of organ, eye and tissue donation.



Susannah Hooper, donor mom and volunteer, pictured with Samantha Marley-Harrold



TO HONOR. TO REMEMBER. TO GIVE HOPE.

The Little Red Heart 5K's mission is to celebrate life, honor those who were donors, pay tribute to those who received, offer hope to those who continue to wait and remember the lives lost waiting for the gift of life.

With funds raised from the Little Red Heart events, our Foundation supports the activities and initiatives of the LifeShare Network to help save more lives through organ and tissue donation.



419
5k Runners

300
One-Mile Walkers

57
Social Tickets

36
Virtual Tickets

812
Total Participants

\$85,350
raised for the
LifeShare Foundation



Michelle Bailey, left, from McKinney, Texas, ran the 5k in honor of donor hero, Keith.





Sports & Media

Oklahoma City Comets Baseball Club
Oklahoma City Thunder
Oklahoma State University

Innovations

Association of Organ Procurement Organizations (AOPO)
Bridge to Life
InVita
MaxQ Research
OrganOx
Organ Recovery Systems
Revalia Bio, Inc.
Specialist Direct, Inc.

Foundation

32 Winds

AbbVie

Advantage Benefits Plus

Aidan's Legacy

Apex Nutrition

Artivion

Chickasaw Nation

Crowe and Dunlevy

Defining Moment Sports Media

Global Transplant Solutions

Hundred Suns Winery

INTEGRIS Health Nazih Zuhdi Transplant Institute

James Avery – Forging Hope

Jeff and Lori Blumenthal

LifeNet Health

Mickey Mantle's Steak House

MidFirst Bank

MTF Biologics

Oklahoma Pork Council

Paycom

Private Jets

Sallop

Stacy's Squad

Tack Designs

The Heinen Family

Thunder Moving

TRIO Oklahoma

Trust Company of Oklahoma

Service Oklahoma

State of Oklahoma – Governor's Wellness Committee

MEET OUR 2024 BOARD MEMBERS

LifeShare Network is honored to have each of our board members and their genuine commitment and support to our mission of saving lives through organ, eye and tissue donation.



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