

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

MIDWEST TRANSPLANT NETWORK



MIDWEST  
TRANSPLANT  
Give Hope. Share Life.®

# 50 YEARS OF ACHIEVEMENT

Midwest Transplant Network celebrated five decades of commitment to organ donation, donor heroes, donor families, transplant recipients, hospital and community partners, community engagement and so much more in 2023. We celebrated in many ways, from acknowledging our history at critical care symposiums, staff Town Halls and donor family activities to a huge 50th Anniversary Staff Celebration in the fall. It was an exciting year!



MTN began its journey into tissue donation in 1989 at the request of local hospitals to provide seamless service, and in the mid-90s, we assumed operations of the KC Eye Bank, furthering our mission to save and enhance lives.

Our focus on donor families and donor heroes demonstrates compassionate care and support as families find ways to honor their loved ones. With our new Donor Care and Surgical Recovery Unit, we cared for donor hero patients and their families with dignity.

In 2023, MTN ranked among the top organ procurement organizations in the country by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, recognized as Tier 1A and third in the nation for donation and transplantation rates. The achievement reflects the generosity of donor heroes, strong partnerships with hospitals and transplant centers, dedicated staff and innovation and improvement.



It's an honor to know that since 1973 when Midwest Organ Bank saved 12 lives through organ donation that we'd grow into a leading OPO that saves hundreds of lives a year. We appreciate everyone involved in the donation process and the important role each of them plays in enabling the gift of life through donation.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jan Finn".

Jan Finn, RN, MSN  
President & Chief Executive Officer  
Midwest Transplant Network



# ORGAN SERVICES

## DCU: A Full Year of Achievement

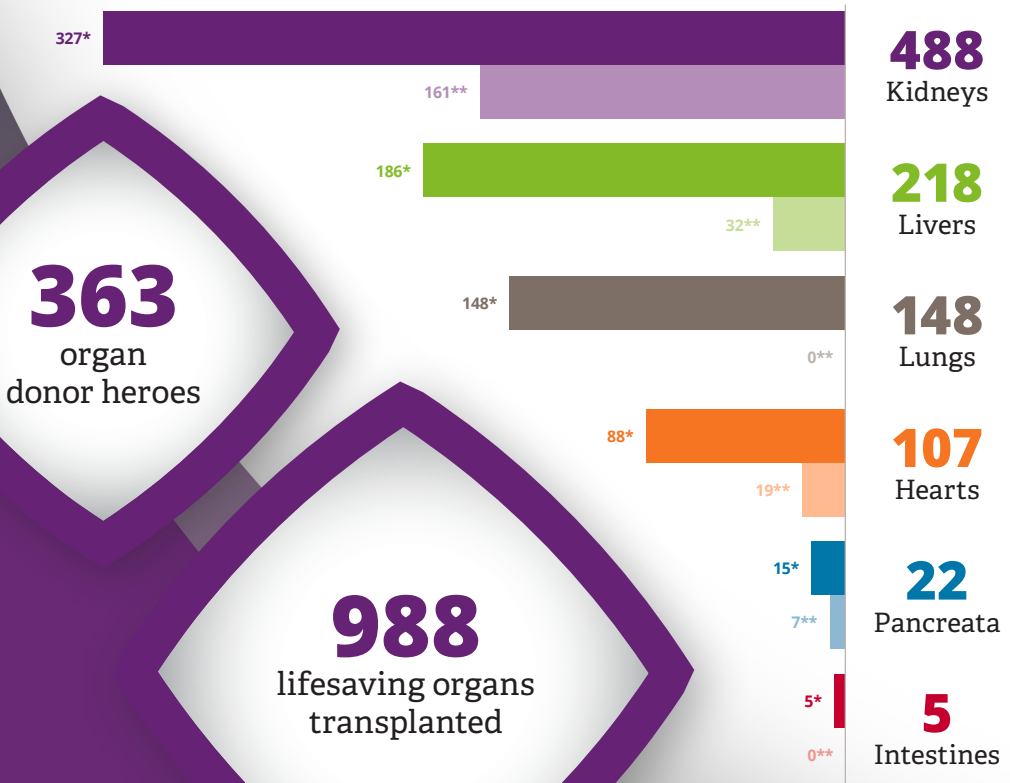
Midwest Transplant Network set a new level of achievement for the number of organs recovered for transplantation, organ donors, eye and tissue donors, and laboratory tests performed as part of organ, eye and tissue donation.

MTN's Donor Care and Surgical Recovery Unit (DCU) marked its one-year anniversary in the fall, while also achieving a full calendar year of specialized care. From January to December 2023, MTN cared for 114 donor hero patients in the DCU, resulting in 364 lifesaving transplants.

The in-house DCU is the realization of years of planning, preparation and training to provide expert care for donors through organ, eye and tissue recovery, as well as providing care to donor families who may choose to be nearby their loved one.

## ORGANS TRANSPLANTED

\*Transplanted elsewhere | \*\*Transplanted locally



# TISSUE SERVICES

## Earning Awards for High Achievement

Throughout 2023, MTN's Tissue Services focused on improving efficiency, including supply usage and tracking. In collaboration with Donor Services and Quality, the department earned a 2022 MTF Biologics Emerald Award for consistency in achieving high-level best practices. The accolade was presented in spring 2023.

**1,399**

tissue and cornea donor heroes



## TISSUES RECOVERED



**891**

Skin  
(dermis)



**1,116**

Corneas



**960**

Bone  
(musculoskeletal)



**606**

Femoral and  
saphenous veins



**267**

Heart  
valves

## LABORATORY SERVICES

### Predicting Organ Compatibility using Virtual Crossmatching Technology

In 2023, the MTN Laboratory introduced a new methodology that combines histocompatibility information from the recipient's HLA antibody profile with the donor's HLA typing to predict the likelihood of transplant compatibility. This information has become beneficial to our transplant programs when deciding on organ offers prior to performing physical crossmatch, minimizing organ cold ischemia time, and improving overall transplant success.

In 2023, the MTN Laboratory performed more than 1,000 virtual crossmatches in comparison to the 900 physical crossmatches making the virtual crossmatches an effective tool when evaluating highly sensitized recipients prior to transplant.

**36,224**

Transplant-supporting lab tests performed

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## MAKING TRANSPLANTS POSSIBLE

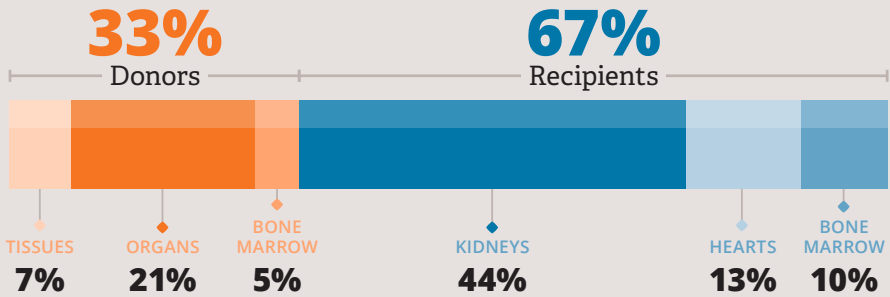


MTN laboratory provides 24/7 testing and consultation services in support of the 988 local organs and 243 import organs transplanted in our community.

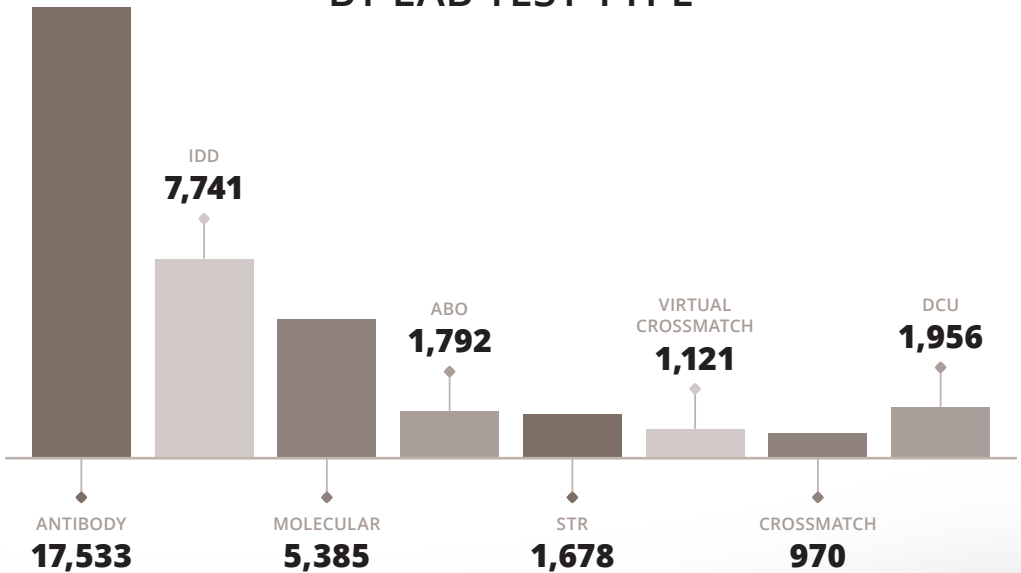


Laboratory testing provides donor testing for both organ and tissue and provides support to all local transplant center organ and bone marrow recipients.

## BREAKDOWN PERFORMED FOR DONORS AND RECIPIENTS



## BREAKDOWN PERFORMED BY LAB TEST TYPE





**242**

hospital partners



**5**

transplant center  
partners





# HOSPITAL SERVICES

## Education Remains a Key Focus Area

Midwest Transplant Network recognizes the importance of partnering with bedside nursing staff to recognize patients who meet referral criteria for potential organ and tissue donors to facilitate the process of successful donation. With a focus on improving stakeholder satisfaction and streamlining the referral process, MTN collaborated with Stormont Vail Health and Saint Luke's Health System to implement electronic referrals. The process minimizes the time required to make a phone referral and allows nurses to spend more time at the bedside.

MTN works with more than 20 nursing school programs to provide foundational education as part of critical care curricula and extend advanced donation education in hospital-based nurse residency programs.

Critical Care Donation Symposia were held at Kansas City's GEHA Field at Arrowhead Stadium, Wichita Riverfront Stadium, Memorial Stadium in Columbia, Missouri and virtually from Joplin, Missouri. Overall, more than 500 critical care nurses, respiratory therapists, social workers and other healthcare professionals earned continuing education credits. Additionally, MTN partnered with University Health Truman Medical Center and Children's Mercy Kansas City to provide donation-focused educational symposia targeted to critical care nursing and respiratory therapy.

We recognize that effective physician collaboration is essential to success in donation. Onboarding and education for new critical care physicians remains a priority for Hospital Services to establish relationships early and align priorities to best support donor families together.

In 2023, the Hospital Services team connected with more than 70 new critical care physicians in Kansas and western Missouri, reaching more than 100 residents and attending physicians to provide targeted educational curricula.

A new program was developed for brain death examination simulation training in partnership with the University of Missouri-Kansas City and was attended by residents from University Health Truman Medical Center, Saint Luke's Health System, and Research Medical Center. The half-day training included an interactive mobile module as well as didactic and hands-on simulation training.

# EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

## Enhancing Engagement in Communities We Serve

MTN's Community Engagement and Public Relations department focused its efforts to connect to communities in meaningful ways.

As the world opened its doors after the pause of a global pandemic, the opportunities to be present at community events and activities increased. MTN joined parades, car shows, softball tournaments, employee health fairs, blood drives, and gave presentations at faith-based health and wellness events as well as business and civic meetings. Staff and volunteer Ambassadors were present at multicultural events such as Kansas City Heritage Festival and Telemundo Kansas City Health Fair; MTN enhanced its partnership with St. James United Methodist Church in Kansas City, Missouri, a predominantly African American congregation, to support back-to-school activities. To share knowledge and create camaraderie among donation-related nonprofits, the team hosted quarterly breakfast conversations with Gift of Life Kansas City, Saving Sight, Team MO-KAN, Community Blood Center and National Kidney Foundation.

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## CONNECTIONS THAT COUNT



**142**

community  
events



**99**

volunteer Ambassadors;  
66 Ambassadors participated  
in at least one event in 2023



**862.59**

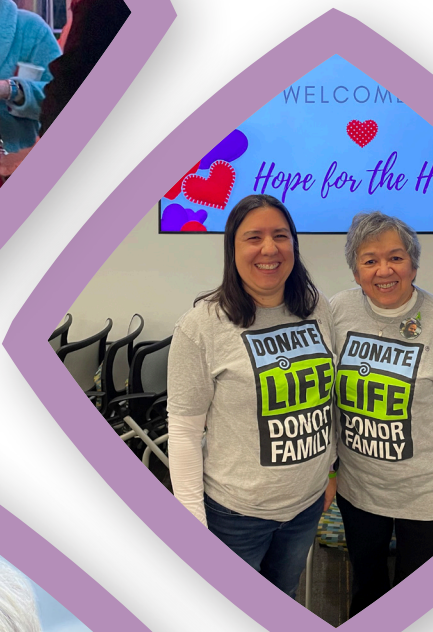
volunteer hours,  
a \$24,152 value



**210**

licensing, treasury  
and Department  
of Revenue partners





# DONOR FAMILY SUPPORT

## Making Memories for Donor Families

Donor Family Services offers extended emotional support and education to families of all organ, eye and tissue donors, facilitates communication with transplant recipients, and hosts a variety of donor family events such as Celebration of Heroes, Hope for the Holidays, zoo and wildlife park adventures and more.

MTN partners with Taylor's Gift, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting families of organ, eye and tissue donors with a grief support program. In 2023, MTN made 18 referrals to Taylor's Gift.

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## SUPPORT BY THE NUMBERS



**11**

donor family  
events



**2,601**

total number of  
attendees



**1,296**

letters exchanged  
between families of  
donor heroes and  
grateful recipients



**11,569**

letters sent to  
families of donor  
heroes and  
healthcare partners  
regarding outcomes  
of donor heroes' gifts



**8,832**

letters sent to  
families remembering  
their donor hero and  
offering support

## SATELLITE OFFICES

Midwest Transplant Network has satellite offices in Columbia and Joplin, Missouri and Wichita, Kansas. The satellite offices provide awareness and support for organ, eye and tissue donation recovery through collaboration with hospital partners and community partners to enhance the mission across the designated service area.

### Columbia

- For the first time, the Columbia Donation Symposium was held at University of Missouri Memorial Stadium.
- Approx. 50 critical care nurses attended to learn about best practices in organ donation.
- Participated in the 40th annual University of Missouri Blood Drive, the largest student-run blood drive in the nation. MTN has been involved with the blood drive since 2018.

### Wichita

- Hosted the Wichita Donation Symposium at Riverfront Stadium.
- Approx. 50 critical care nurses, respiratory therapists and health care professionals attended to learn about best practices in organ donation.
- MTN subject-matter experts presented sessions.





## CORPORATE EDUCATION



49 newly hired staff completed MTN's Orientation program, Atlas



MTN's Leadership Development had 11 new graduates



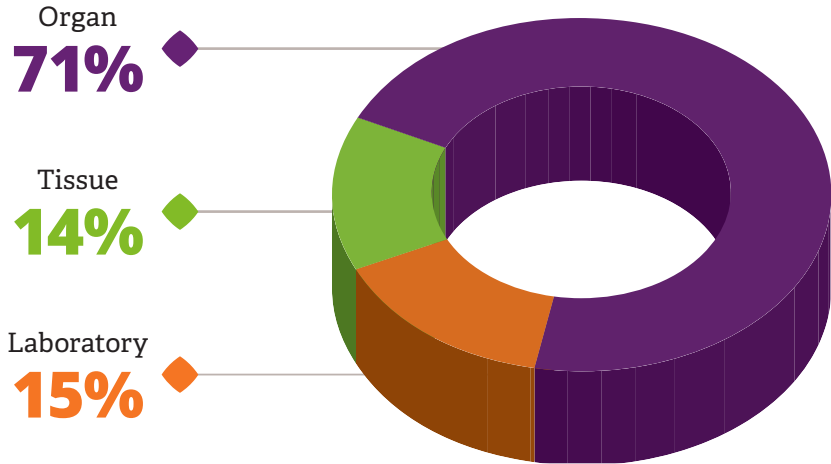
Held two train-the-trainer development sessions for staff called PACE – Professional Agile Curriculum & Education



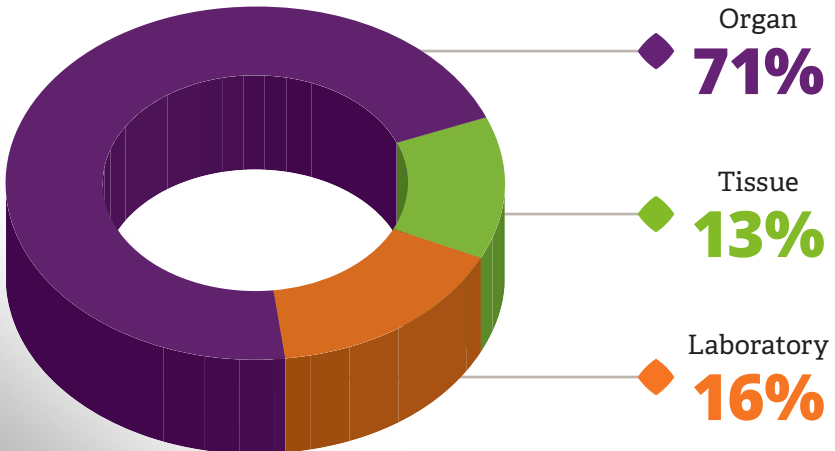
Held two advanced train-the-trainer program sessions called TEMPO – Training Education Mastering PACE Objectives

# FINANCE

## REVENUE



## EXPENSES





# 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Governing Board

### OFFICERS

#### Chair:

**Stevan Whitt, MD** (Chief Medical Officer | University of Missouri Health Care)

#### Vice Chair:

**Sameer Brahmavar** (Chief Product Officer | Interlace Health)

#### Second Vice Chair:

**Sean Kumer, MD, PhD, FACS** (Vice President and Surgical Director, Liver Transplantation | The University of Kansas Health System)

#### Immediate Past Chair:

**Barbara MacArthur, RN, MN, FAAN** (Kansas City, Missouri)

### BOARD MEMBERS

**A. Michael Borkon, MD** (Mission Hills, Kansas)

**Thomas Crouch, MD** (Kansas City, Missouri)

**Kevin Dishman, MD** (Senior Vice President and Chief Medical and Quality Officer | Stormont Vail Health)

**Michael R. Dunaway** (President | Dunaway Consulting Group)

**Gary Duncan, LFACHE** (President Emeritus | Freeman Health System)

**Richard Muther, MD** (Founding Partner | Kidney Associates of Kansas City)

**Sarah Oakley, RN, MSN** (Vice President, Chief Nursing Officer | North Kansas City Hospital)

**Steve Reintjes Sr., MD** (President and Chief Executive Officer | North Kansas City Hospital)

**David Theis** (Garnett, Kansas)

**Brad Warady, MD** (Division Director, Pediatric Nephrology | Children's Mercy Kansas City)

## Advisory Board

### OFFICER

#### Chair:

**Carole Freiburger-O'Keefe, DO** (Critical Care Medicine | Saint Luke's Health System)

### BOARD MEMBERS

**Doris C. Agwu, MPH** (Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion | UMKC School of Medicine)

**Tracie Baker** (Donor Family Member | Kansas City, Missouri)

**Christina Bishop, PhD** (Chief of Laboratory Services | Midwest Transplant Network)

**Dana Buchmueller, RN** (Intensive Care Unit | Research Medical Center)

**Jimi Cook, DVM, PhD, OTSC** (Director of Thompson Laboratory for Regenerative Orthopaedics | University of Missouri Health Care)

**Jodi Coombs, MBA, BSN, RN** (Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer | Children's Mercy Kansas City)

**Reagan Cussimano, JD** (Director of Governmental Affairs | The University of Kansas Health System)

**Pranavkumar Dalal, MD** (Nephrologist | Research Medical Center)

**Jameson Forster, MD** (Transplant Surgeon | Saint Luke's Health System)

**Alexandra Garrick, MEd** (Executive Director | National Kidney Foundation)

**Jeff Goble** (President | Goble Consulting Group)

**George Herrera** (Executive Vice President of Donor Services | MTF Biologics)

**James D. Kaplan, MD** (Pulmonary/Internal Medicine | Kansas Pulmonary & Sleep Specialists)

**Michael Moncure III, MD, MHCM, FACS** (Administrative Medical Director | Midwest Transplant Network)

**Bhargava Mullapudi, MD, FACS** (Chief, Section of Transplant Surgery | Children's Mercy Kansas City)

**Todd Murphy, MD** (General and Critical Care Surgeon | Ascension Via Christi St. Francis)

**Carol Perry, RN, BSN, FACHE** (Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer | Stormont Vail Health)

**Naftali Presser, MD** (Transplant Surgeon | Research Medical Center)

**Stephen Reintjes Jr., MD** (Neurosurgeon | North Kansas City Hospital)

**Timothy Schmitt, MD, FACS** (Director of Transplantation | The University of Kansas Health System)

**Mark Wakefield, MD** (Transplant Surgeon | University of Missouri Health Care)

### Emeritus Board Members

**Thomas H. Estep, MD** (Wichita, Kansas)

**Gilbert Ross Jr., MD** (University of Missouri Health Care)

# ABOUT MIDWEST TRANSPLANT NETWORK

Midwest Transplant Network has been connecting lives through organ donation since 1973. As the federally designated not-for-profit organ procurement organization (OPO) for Kansas and the western two-thirds of Missouri, Midwest Transplant Network provides services including organ procurement; surgical tissue and eye recovery; laboratory testing and 24-hour rapid response for referrals from hospital partners. Midwest Transplant Network ranks in the top 10% in the country among OPOs, which reflects the organization's quality, professionalism and excellence in partnerships throughout the region.

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## MTN'S LEADERSHIP TEAM

### C-Suite Executives

**President/Chief Executive Officer:**  
Jan Finn, RN, MSN

**Vice President & Chief Clinical Officer:**  
Lori Markham, RN, MSN, CCRN

**Chief Administrative Officer:**  
Christy Houston, NP-C

**Chief Stakeholder Engagement Officer:**  
Sarah Oland, LMSW

**Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer:**  
Terry Shambles, FACHE, FHFMA

**Chief People Officer:**  
Dana Totzke, PHR, SHRM-CP





## **OUR MISSION**

Saving lives by honoring  
the gift of organ and tissue donation  
with dignity and compassion

## **OUR VISION**

Leading organ and tissue donation  
through excellence,  
quality and partnerships



MIDWEST  
TRANSPLANT  
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