

NEWS RELEASE

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Two Mid-Atlantic Organ Procurement Organizations Officially Merge to Become Infinite Legacy *Infinite Legacy Staff Helped Save 788 Lives in 2022 Thanks to Generous Organ Donors Heroes*

January 18, 2023 – Earlier this month, The Living Legacy Foundation of Maryland (The LLF) and Washington Regional Transplant Community (WRTC) officially merged to become <u>Infinite Legacy</u>, one united organ procurement organization (OPO) serving almost 10 million people in the state of Maryland, Northern Virginia and Washington, DC. Both former organizations entered the merger proactively last Spring, with each in a position of exceptional strength both clinically and financially.

Records Broken

The merger comes as both former organizations, as well as the U.S. organ donation system, saw high-performing organ and tissue recovery numbers in 2022, including several records broken. In 2022, Infinite Legacy staff recovered organs from 323 deceased donor heroes and helped facilitate 904 transplants, which contributed to saving the lives of 788 people. We are humbled to also recognize an additional 77 'donors in spirit,' people who intended to be organ donors, however, for various medical reasons, their organs were deemed not viable or transplantable at the time of their death.

In addition, Infinite Legacy staff facilitated 1,985 gifts from 1,037 eye and tissue donors, enhancing the lives of up to 77,775 people. These patients received corneas to restore sight, skin to heal burns, heart valves to repair defects, bones to correct injuries and tendons/ligaments to restore movement. Staff also recovered and allocated 384 organs, eyes and tissues for vital medical research and assisted with 47 living kidney donor surgeries at local transplant centers.

Meantime, the U.S. exceeded 42,800 total organ transplants performed in 2022, which included over 25,000 kidney transplants and also record numbers of liver, heart, and lung transplants according to the <u>United</u> <u>Network for Organ Sharing</u>. Additionally, almost 15,000 people became deceased donors, the twelfth consecutive record-setting year.

A Bright Future

With the merger closing, Infinite Legacy realizes an exceptional opportunity to bring together collective expertise, resources and offerings to provide improved donation and transplant services to the communities it serves. Within two weeks of being operational, the organization has facilitated 46 recoveries of organ and tissue donors in 2023.

"With more than 100,000 people still waiting for an organ transplant in the U.S., it's imperative that we put ourselves in a position where we can maximize the number of lives we can save and improve through organ and tissue recoveries," said Charlie Alexander, president and chief executive officer, Infinite Legacy. "This merger accomplishes that. We are proud of this new organization and are looking forward to what we will accomplish as Infinite Legacy, giving life and restoring hope to those desperately waiting for a lifesaving transplant and honoring our donor heroes and their courageous families."

Infinite Legacy is one of the nation's 56 OPOs working in partnership with 68 hospitals and eight transplant centers to decrease the number of patients waiting for a lifesaving organ. It facilitates organ, eye and tissue donation and educates people about the critical importance of registering to be a donor while honoring the legacy and generosity of donors and providing care to their families.

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