

About Us

Community Health Coalition (CHC)

brings together the resources of existing organizations like the Durham Academy of Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy (DAMDP), agencies and others including churches and community groups to address health issues of the community.

The mission of CHC: strive to achieve health equity and to eliminate racial health disparities in Durham County and the surrounding areas. We advocate equal health access and work toward reducing the number of chronic diseases like diabetes, high blood pressure and cancers.

Due to many chronic diseases, the need for transplants is very high among African Americans. Diseases like diabetes and high blood pressure often result in the need for kidney and heart transplants. There are high numbers of African Americans on the list waiting to receive organ transplants. Most often they are waiting for hearts and kidneys. In many cases, individuals die before an organ becomes available.

On behalf of our mission, we ask that you please consider becoming an organ donor!

Call CHC to Learn More
919-470-8680

Visit our Web Site
CommunityHealthCoalition.com

View our Documentary
Precious Gift of Life, on Youtube



Scan the QR code or visit our web site
to learn more about organ donation:
CommunityHealthCoalition.com

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Improving the Health of Durham
& NC Communities since 1989

**Give the
Precious Gift of Life.
Become an Organ Donor!**



Tesca Kinard, Heart Transplant Recipient

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Community Health Coalition - Organ Donation

The Need for MINORITY Donations

The need for transplants is very high among some ethnic minorities, though there is a need among all populations. Some diseases involving the kidney, heart, lung, pancreas and liver that can lead to organ failure are found more often in minority populations.

Did You Know?

African-Americans and Hispanics are three times more likely to suffer from kidney disease than Caucasians.

African-Americans have greater incidences of high blood pressure (hypertension) which can lead to kidney failure.

Native Americans are four times more likely than Caucasians to suffer from diabetes.

Some of these diseases are best treated through transplantation; others can only be treated through transplantation.

The rate of organ donation in minority communities does not keep pace with the number needing transplants. African-Americans make up about 22% of North Carolina's overall population, but make up 52% of North Carolinians waiting for an organ transplant.

Minority patients may have a longer wait for matched kidneys to become available and therefore may be sicker at the time of transplant or die waiting.

Statistical Data about Minorities

Of the more than 1,500 African Americans who are waiting for a life saving transplant in North Carolina, 95% are on the waitlist for a kidney transplant.

African-Americans are four times more likely than Caucasians to be on dialysis because of kidney failure which often require a kidney transplant.

Myths About Becoming an Organ Donor

Myths and Misconceptions	Reality
If I agree to donate my organs, my doctor or the emergency room staff won't work as hard to save my life. They'll remove my organs as soon as possible to save somebody else.	When you go to the hospital for treatment, doctors focus on saving your life. You're seen by a doctor whose specialty most closely matches your particular emergency. The doctor in charge of your care has nothing to do with transplantation.
Organ donation is against my religion.	Organ donation is consistent with the beliefs of most religions. If you are unsure or uncomfortable with your faith's position on donation, ask a member of your clergy. You may also check the Carolina Donor Services web site www.carolinadonorservices.org for religious views on organ donation.
I'm under age 18. I'm too young to make the decision.	Individuals can make a legal decision to register as a donor once they are 16, but parents/guardians of minors under 18 years of age are consulted before donation occurs.
I want my loved ones to have an open-casket funeral. That can't happen if his or her organs or tissues have been donated.	Organ and tissues donation doesn't interfere with having an open-casket funeral. The donor's body is clothed for burial, so there are not visible signs of organ or tissue donation.
I'm too old to donate. Nobody would want my organs.	There's no defined cutoff age for organ donation. The decision to use your organs is based on strict medical criteria, not age. Organs have been successfully transplanted from donors in their 70s and 80s.
Rich, famous and powerful people always seem to move to the front of the line when they need a donor organ. There's no way to ensure that my organs will go to those who've waited the longest or the neediest.	The rich and famous aren't given priority when it comes to allocation of organs. It may seem that way because of the amount of publicity generated when celebrities receive a transplant. The United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) is responsible for maintaining the national organ transplant waiting list and subjects all celebrity transplants to an internal audit to make sure the organ allocation was appropriate.
My family will be charged if I donate my organs.	The organ donor's family is never charged for donating. The family is charged for the cost of all final efforts to save your life and those costs are sometimes misinterpreted as costs related to organ donation. Costs for organ recovery go to the transplant recipient.