2024 ANNUAL REPORT

MIDWEST TRANSPLANT NETWORK

MIDWEST TRANSPLANT
Give Hope. Share Life.®

A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENTS

It was a remarkable year as Midwest Transplant Network reached a major milestone in 2024. For the first time in our history, MTN facilitated 1,075 organ transplants in a single year with gifts from 399 donor heroes.

We are grateful for the generosity of donor heroes and families for making the choice to give the gift of hope and share life. These decisions make a positive difference to individuals and families in Kansas, Missouri and across the country.

Our collaboration with hospital partners and medical professionals is vital to organ donation and transplantation. We deeply appreciate your commitment and support that makes a livesaving difference in the communities we serve and for the recipients whose lives have been enriched by the generosity of our donors.

Communication is key to providing ongoing care, support and education to the families of organ, eye and tissue donor heroes. We remain connected with letters, emails, phone calls and a variety of family events including Hope for the Holidays, Celebration of Heroes and more.

The annual Donate Life Legacy Walk celebrates the gift of life while raising awareness about the importance of registering as organ, eye and tissue donors. The annual community event welcomed 1,700 people in honor of donor heroes and transplant warriors.

MTN is always at the forefront of innovation. After extensive research in partnership with the Center for Practical Bioethics and in listening sessions with our hospital partners, MTN began a new era in leading the way in organ recovery. We have partnered with SpecialtyCare, the largest perfusion provider in the country, to provide perfusion services in organ recovery. This recovery technique known as Abdominal Normothermic Regional Perfusion (A-NRP) contributes to successful transplant outcomes and enhances the lives of recipients.

In the fall, we hosted a Transplant Growth Collaboration event with more than 100 organ transplant and senior hospital leaders from the region. The event provided an opportunity to hear from leaders across the U.S. as they shared innovative practices aimed at increasing the rate of successful transplantations and saving more lives. The event was part of the work of the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network's Expeditious Task Force working to reach the bold aim to increase the number of deceased donor transplants in the U.S. from 39,680 in 2023 to 60,000 in 2026.

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Critical Care Donation Symposia were held in Kansas City, Missouri, Wichita, Kansas, and Columbia, Missouri. We are proud to host nearly 500 critical care nurses, respiratory therapists, social workers and other healthcare professionals who took part in educational sessions and learned more about advancements in the organ donation process, case studies, and donor and recipient family resources.

We know that effective physician collaboration is essential to success in donation. Onboarding and education for new critical care physicians is a top priority for MTN to establish relationships early and align priorities to best support donor hero families together. We have two medical directors — Carole Freiberger, DO, and Michael Moncure, MD, FACS — to assist in various ways. We'd be glad to have them meet your team.

Thank you for building meaningful relationships with Midwest Transplant Network and creating a legacy for our donor heroes and their families. Our mission drives the work we do to give hope to those awaiting transplants.

Warm regards,

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

ORGAN SERVICES

Midwest Transplant Network facilitated the recovery and transplantation of 1,075 organs in 2024. This record-breaking number can be attributed to generous donor heroes and their families for giving the gift of hope and sharing life. We are grateful for our hospital partners, the medical professionals and MTN staff for their vital role in organ donation and transplantation.

In its second full year of service, MTN's onsite Donor Care and Surgical Recovery Unit (DCU) cared for 131 donor hero patients resulting in 430 lifesaving transplants.

In fall 2024, MTN implemented Normothermic Regional Perfusion (NRP) during Donation After Circulatory Death (DCD) recoveries. This innovative technique allows for more organs to be transplanted, thus honoring our donor heroes' gifts and saving more lives.

By the end of 2024, MTN recovered 30 NRP cases that resulted in 58 organs being transplanted. NRP has allowed MTN to double liver utilization on DCD recoveries, as well as allow 100% of hearts to be utilized when hearts were intended to be transplanted.

We partnered with a national perfusion company for this new service to provide 24/7 coverage, enabling MTN staff to facilitate NRP across our donor service area.

MTN is among several organ procurement organizations that are implementing NRP. We intend to be a leader by using the process in all DCD recoveries and being able to facilitate all aspects of NRP independently. NRP will increase the number of available organs for recipients in need.

TOTAL LIFESAVING ORGANS TRANSPLANTED:

1,075

ORGANS TRANSPLANTED

536
kidneys
(previous record: 498 in 2022)

242
livers
(previous record: 218 in 2023)

157
lungs

105
hearts

30
pancreata

5
intestines

TISSUE SERVICES

Tissue donation and transplantation is life-enhancing and may also be lifesaving. The gift of tissue donation can be used to restore sight, cover burns, repair hearts, replace veins, and mend damaged connective tissues and cartilage. The gift of bone can be used for a variety of reconstructive orthopedic surgical procedures.

In 2024, our team:

- Welcomed and onboarded eight Tissue Procurement Coordinators.
- Hosted an annual Tissue University Staff Education and collaborated with the Donation Services Center to provide education for both departments.
- Held our first EMS Symposium to provide valuable information about organ, eye and tissue donation to EMS workers representing more than 16 EMS agencies.

TOTAL TISSUE AND CORNEA DONORS:

1,447

TISSUES RECOVERED

1,017 skin (dermis)

1,066 corneas (from 540 donors)

967 bone (musculoskeletal)

302 saphenous veins

238 femoral veins*

230 heart valves

**CORRECTION: In 2024, Midwest Transplant Network recovered 238 femoral veins, not 540 as previously published. The revision is noted in the digital version as of June 17, 2025. Our apologies for the error.*

LABORATORY SERVICES

MTN Laboratory Services marked another milestone in 2024 with a record-breaking year of more than 40,000 laboratory tests performed. The MTN laboratory plays a pivotal role in the transplant process, performing testing for both recipients and donors. This vital work bridges the livesaving gift of donation to those in need. In 2024, 35% of the testing was dedicated to donors of tissue, organs and bone marrow, while the remaining 65% focused on recipients. Pre-transplant testing helps identify suitable matches, while post-transplant testing ensures ongoing care for those who have received these crucial gifts.

A highlight of the year was the successful implementation of the Alinity instrument for donor testing. This cutting-edge technology automates infectious disease testing, increasing the accuracy of results while significantly reducing testing times. The new system has proven invaluable in accelerating the critical processes involved in organ and tissue transplantation.

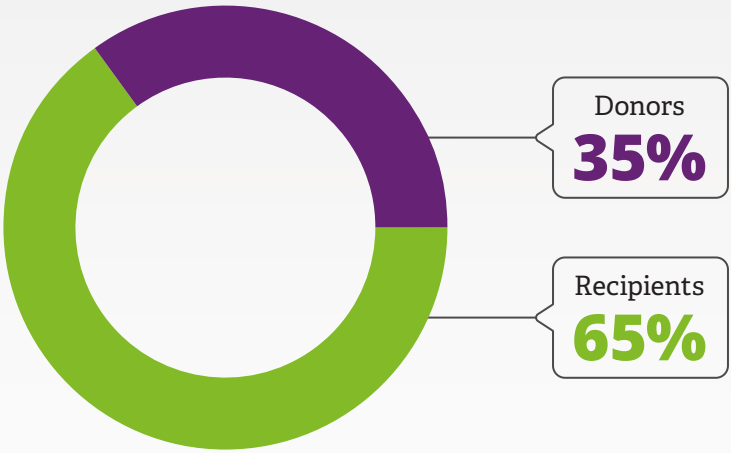
In addition to advancements in testing, MTN Laboratory Services prioritized data management improvements in 2024. The establishment of dedicated storage for critical data, coupled with the optimization of the reporting structure, has enhanced the lab's efficiency and its ability to support livesaving work.

MTN Laboratory Services is dedicated to providing accurate and timely laboratory testing to support organ and tissue transplantation. Our work directly impacts the lives of patients by ensuring that both recipients and donors receive the essential testing needed for livesaving procedures.

TRANSPLANT-SUPPORTING LABORATORY TESTS PERFORMED:

40,075

BREAKDOWN BY TEST FOCUS-TYPE



HOSPITAL SERVICES

MTN recognizes the importance of partnering with bedside nursing staff in the ICU and emergency department to recognize patients who meet referral criteria for potential organ donation. Their role is vital in recognizing triggers to update MTN to ensure no opportunity for donation is lost. With our focus on stakeholder satisfaction and streamlining the process to make a potential organ or tissue donor referral, MTN continues to support an electronic referral process for participating hospitals and welcomes the opportunity to expand this service to more hospitals in the future.

Education is the foundation of Hospital Services as we focus on training nurses, physicians, respiratory therapists, social workers and chaplains. MTN partners with 18 nursing school programs to provide foundational training as part of critical care curricula and extend advanced donation education in hospital-based nurse residency programs. In 2024, we hosted three Donation and Transplantation Action Council meetings with 150 key stakeholders providing education, industry updates and sharing best practices.

Critical Care Donation Symposia were held in Kansas City and Columbia, Missouri, and Wichita, Kansas. More than 500 critical care nurses, respiratory therapists, social workers and other healthcare professionals attended the sessions and earned continuing education credits. Additionally, MTN partnered with University Health Truman Medical Center, HCA Midwest Health, Children's Mercy Kansas City and Saint Luke's Health System to provide donation-focused educational programs.

Effective physician collaboration is essential to success in donation. Onboarding and training for new critical care physicians is a top priority for Hospital Services to establish relationships early

and align priorities to best support donor families together. In 2024, the Hospital Services team connected with more than 100 critical care physicians in Kansas and western Missouri to provide targeted education and engagement. Eighteen physicians in the Kansas City area participated in one of three Death by Neurologic Criteria Simulation training programs led by Michael Moncure, MD, FACS, Trauma & Surgical Critical Care, University Health Truman Medical Center, and Professor of Surgery, University of Missouri-Kansas City, and Medical Director at Midwest Transplant Network; and Carole Freiberger, DO, Critical Care Intensivist at Saint Luke's Health System and MTN Associate Medical Director. The half-day training provided CME and included an interactive mobile module as well as didactic and hands-on simulation training.

Collaborative partnerships with funeral homes and medical examiners are crucial to ensure donation can move forward in certain death circumstances. MTN's Funeral Home and Medical Examiner Liaison, Brad Marten, is a nationally recognized industry leader who works with all the funeral homes and medical examiners in our service area to develop relationships and support referral processes. MTN's commitment to these partnerships ensures that donation can be facilitated while honoring funeral arrangements and respecting any necessary investigative processes and autopsies.

CONNECTIONS THAT COUNT

242
hospital partners

5
transplant center partners

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

MTN's Community Engagement and Public Relations department provides an important connection to communities in our service area and creates meaningful ways to share the message of giving hope and sharing life through donation.

The CE/PR team gave presentations at faith-based health and wellness events as well as business and civic meetings. Staff and volunteer Ambassadors were present at the Kansas City PrideFest and multicultural events such as the Kansas City Juneteenth 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, MTN hosted quarterly breakfast conversations with Gift of Life Kansas City, Saving Sight, Team MO-KAN, Community Blood Center and National Kidney Foundation. During the year, MTN had a presence at parades, car shows, softball tournaments, employee health fairs and blood drives.

The 2024 Donate Life Legacy Walk, coordinated by CE/PR in collaboration with multiple MTN departments, welcomed 1,700 participants to the National WWI Museum and Memorial for the annual celebration of organ, eye and tissue donation.

MTN increased active engagement with license, treasury and Departments of Motor Vehicle registration with in-person trainings, office visits, information tables and outreach through social media.

MTN's social media efforts led to growth in followers, reach and engagement on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube.

SOCIAL MEDIA METRICS

PLATFORM	INCREASE	FOLLOWERS	REACH	ENGAGEMENT
Facebook	575	16,911	153.6K	206.7K
Instagram	191	1,693	13.8K	2.4K
LinkedIn	790	3,991	43.4K	77.5K
YouTube	51	421	441 hrs.	26.5K views

CE/PR STATS AT A GLANCE

929.61

staff and MTN Ambassador volunteer hours

67

community events

97

volunteer Ambassadors

959

completed graphic design requests

217

licensing, treasurer and Department of Revenue partners, including tag offices

MY
Friend
IS A HERO
MY
Brother
IS A HERO
MY
Dad
IS A HERO
MY
Grandpa
IS A HERO

Miles Hoffman
7-9-21 ♥ 2-1-24
Always our HERO
STEVE VANDERVEEN
7/16/1969 - 1/2/2023
Soar like an eagle, Ride like the wind.

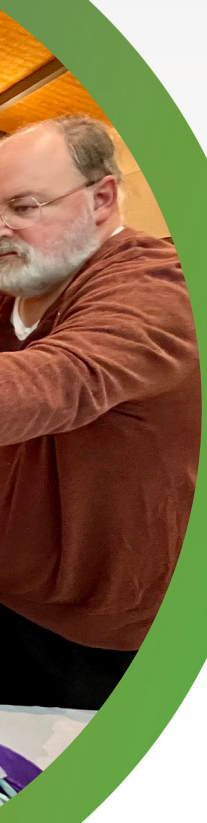
Paradise

DONOR FAMILY SUPPORT

When families make the decision to donate a loved one's organs, eyes or tissues, they offer precious gifts that will save or improve the lives of others. The Family Services Team assists families during what often is a difficult time. We offer extended emotional support and education to all families of organ, eye and tissue donors. We also help facilitate communication with transplant recipients.

Ryan's Family Room provides privacy and comfort to families of donor heroes who have been transferred to the Donor Care and Surgical Recovery Unit at Midwest Transplant Network. Families of organ, eye and tissue donors use this space to be together as they pay their final respects to their donor hero.

In 2024, Donor Family Services streamlined and improved the process for receiving initial follow-up from transplant centers for recipient information to be included in donor family outcome correspondence.



SUPPORT BY THE NUMBERS

390

letters exchanged between donor families and recipients

11,214

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

7,504

letters sent to donor families remembering their loved ones 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 community partners to enhance the mission across the designated service area.

COLUMBIA

- Columbia facilitated the first Thoracic-Abdominal Normothermic Regional Perfusion (TA-NRP) in 2024. This is a unique recovery technique in the operating room that allows the heart to be transplanted from Donation after Circulatory Death (DCD) donors.
- Midwest Transplant Network coordinated with the Columbia office to host a floragraph finishing ceremony with the portrait of donor hero Joe Hecht of Sturgeon, Missouri. Hecht died in July 2020, donating his kidneys to save the lives of two people. As the co-sponsor of the 2025 OneLegacy Donate Life Rose Parade® float, MTN selected Hecht to be honored on the float.

WICHITA

- Two MTN Wichita staff members earned DAISY Team Awards in 2024 at Wesley Medical Center. The DAISY Team Award honors collaboration by two or more people, led by a nurse, who identifies and meets patient and patient family needs by going above and beyond the traditional role of nursing.
- MTN Wichita was featured in a local news story during National Donate Life Month to enhance awareness through voices of donor hero families and transplant recipients (KSN News).
- The Critical Care Donation Symposium at Wichita Riverfront Stadium was attended by more than 100 critical care medical professionals and is the highest attendance on record.

CORPORATE EDUCATION

- Two projects were completed in conjunction with the Workforce Satisfaction and Engagement Strategic Planning Committee.
- Corporate Education researched and created MTN's first formal Preceptor Program. It will be presented to a select group of departments in 2025.
- In addition, through research and evaluation, MTN selected a new learning management system to replace Traincaster. It will be implemented in May 2025.

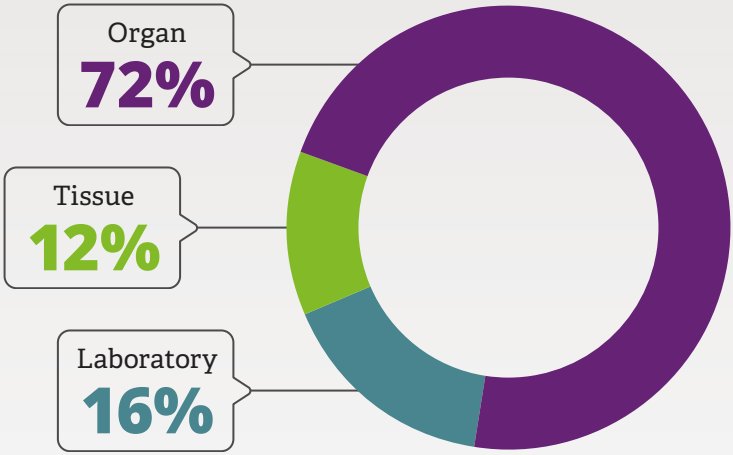
EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

122

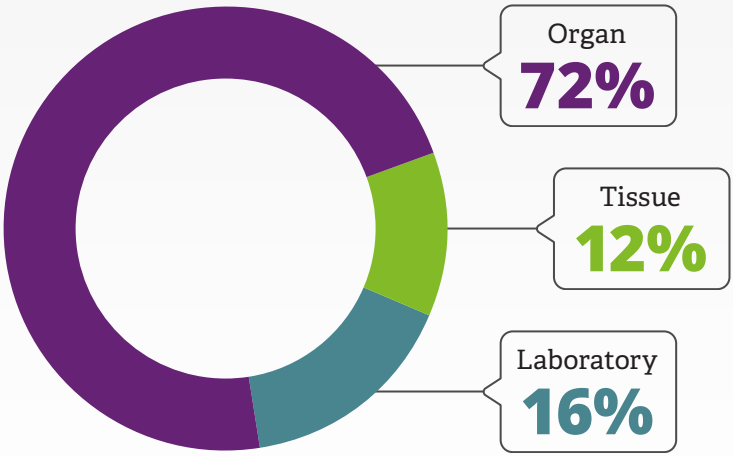
staff members participated in 2024 employee professional development opportunities

FINANCE

REVENUE



EXPENSES



AVIATION

Midwest Transplant Network is the sixth largest organ procurement organization by geography. MTN's designated service area (DSA) is 150,000 square miles covering the state of Kansas and western Missouri. Having an aircraft and pilots on staff are critical to providing safe, professional and efficient air transportation in response to MTN's mission.

MTN's Aviation team can mobilize quickly to anywhere within the service area to support hospital partners and recover organs to maximize the gift of life. Approximately 40% of MTN donor patients are outside of the Kansas City metropolitan area.

In 2024, MTN Aviation flew a total of **763 livesaving missions**.

2024 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 *(Vice President of Cardiac Services | The University of Kansas Health System)*

BOARD MEMBERS

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

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

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)*

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

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)*

Andrew Widman *(Senior Financial Advisor | Principal National Life Insurance Company*

ADVISORY BOARD

OFFICER

Chair:
Carole Freiberger-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 Cussimanio, 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)*

Jeff Goble *(President | Goble Consulting Group)*

Christine Hamele *(Assistant Vice President, Public Relations and Community Affairs | HCA Midwest Health System)*

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

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

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

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

Amy Peters, RN, MBA *(Chief Nursing Officer | University Health)*

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

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

Yvette Richards, DMin *(Director of Community Connections and Mission | St. James United Methodist Church)*

Timothy Schmitt, MD *(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)*

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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.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

C-SUITE EXECUTIVES

President & Chief Executive Officer:
Jan Finn, RN, MSN

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

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

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