

ADOT MVD Connection



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The Difference a Valve Can Make



A smiling Heather Jauregui, 14, after throwing the first pitch for Donate Life Day at the Diamondbacks April 14, 2019.

My heart was racing!" Heather Jauregui said after throwing the first pitch at a Diamondbacks game April 14, 2019. But she's grateful her heart beats properly.

Absent pulmonary valve syndrome (APVS) changed the course of Jauregui's health care before birth. Her mother was four months pregnant when doctors determined something didn't work with the now-14-year-old's heart.

She was safe because her mother's oxygen supply compensated for any defects. Someone with APVS has an underdeveloped or missing pulmonary valve, which is supposed to supply blood to the lungs for oxygen before circulation.

"My heart was very loud because some of the blood was flowing back," she says. She also had periodic cyanosis—a blue or purple discoloration of the skin because of the low oxygen levels.

"All of this was causing my heart to work much harder than a normal heart," Jauregui says.

After close observation and approval from her cardiologist, doctors performed Jauregui's first of two open-heart surgeries at Phoenix Children's Hospital when she was only 4 months old.

Jauregui is here today because tissue donation saved her life, and she feels lucky to have only

gotten the one diagnosis. Most often, APVS comes with other heart defects that can further complicate a patient's health. Her first procedure extended her life for eight years before that valve started to leak. Doctors would have to intervene once again.

Imagine a 9-year-old girl going in for her second open-heart surgery. While facing a serious health condition, she had other priorities on her mind.

"I remember I was more concerned with the surgery landing on my birthday than the actual surgery itself," she says.

Three hours later she had a new heart valve. Jauregui says it still works perfectly, and she credits her cardiologist as well as the surgeon who performed both operations.

"I know I am very lucky because sometimes babies with heart defects do not survive other complications," Jauregui says. "I'm very thankful to the organ donor who gave me my heart valve and to their family who must have been so sad but still so giving."

This poised young teen says her journey has influenced her career path. She plans to go into nursing or cardiology to help other people with heart concerns like hers.

Greetings

From DNA's President and CEO Tim Brown

The year is almost half over, and we're already looking ahead to our future. If you haven't heard, our path now leads us from Phoenix to Tempe where, after much research and problem solving, the new headquarters for the gift of life in Arizona is finally sprouting from a pile of dirt.

However, before construction crews started their part, we got a humbling reminder about why listening to the people touched by donation is important. At our groundbreaking ceremony March 5, 2019, Jennifer Loreda shared how the work Donor Network of Arizona (DNA) does truly is an invitation for donor families to grieve, to heal and to be certain no one will forget their loved ones who went on to save and heal others, like her brother Jacob Daily. He is a donor who saved three people and healed countless others. He is a true hero.

Arizona is now witnessing another inspiring year in organ and tissue donation with 279 lives saved between January and April. And almost 95,400 more people said yes to donation through Arizona Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Division (ADOT MVD) alone.



After breaking ground, President and CEO Tim Brown poses near construction equipment at the sight of DNA's future home in Tempe.

We are grateful to the partnership with ADOT MVD that has helped DNA get this far and to all Arizonans who have said yes to donation. We're looking forward to moving into our new home in 2020 with a clear vision of always realizing Arizona's potential to save and improve lives.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tim Brown".

ADOT MVD Goes On-Screen



Scottsdale ADOT MVD Supervisor Justin Ulibarri can't help but smile when talking about all the lives saved through the efforts of ADOT MVD employees.

Featuring MVD employees and leadership, DNA will release a training video for ADOT MVD employees, new and veteran alike, to show during in-service hours. This video will provide information about the organ, tissue and cornea donation process, what it means to check the yes box, as well as the importance of the partnership.

You'll even find two of your teammates, office manager Kathy Lever and supervisor Justin Ulibarri from the Scottsdale ADOT MVD office, making a cameo in this video to elaborate on their experience and how they've seen the relationship evolve.

Since this partnership began, DNA has seen extensive growth in registered organ, tissue and cornea donors in Arizona. In fact, more than 95% of new registrations come from people who check the box at an MVD location. Last year alone, 265,000 people added themselves to the DonateLifeAZ Registry this way.

"It's a great opportunity for MVD employees to know what a difference they make simply by getting that question in front of people and giving them the opportunity to save and heal lives," says Sara Pace Jones, vice president of Development and Referral Services.

Every Arizona Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Division (ADOT MVD) employee has a vital role in making donation possible. This summer, Donor Network of Arizona (DNA) will have a new way to show just how much your work directly impacts the lives of people in need of a second chance at life.

Lifesaving Lunch with Lawmakers



(l to r) Ryan Nelson, DNA tissue recovery supervisor, and Jessica Drey, kidney and pancreas recipient, meet with Rep. Rick Grey.

The early morning spring light reflects off a poster to reveal the phrase, “We are all born with the ability to change lives.” This phrase was chosen by transplant recipient Jessica Drey to honor the heroic decision her pancreas and kidney donor made.

For the first time since her transplant, Drey got the chance to share the story of her donor, Zakiyyah Elzy, on the Senate lawn of the Arizona State Capitol for Donate Life Day at the Capitol

2019. In its 11th year, Donor Network of Arizona (DNA) holds this annual event, so people touched by donation, such as Drey, can honor the gift of life.

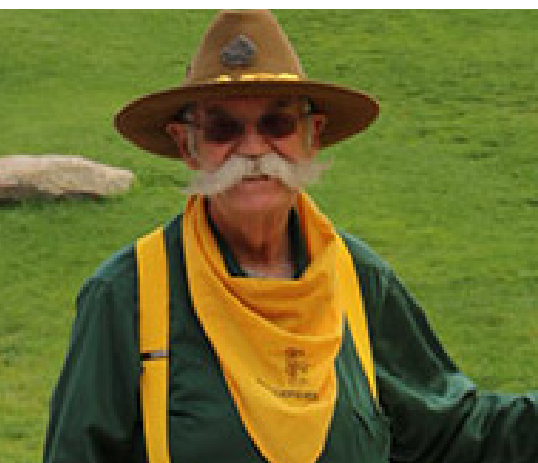
Before the sun even came up, DNA lined the Senate lawn with more than 100 posters featuring stories of how donation has shaped our state. This Garden of Life featured the names and photos of Arizona heroes who gave the gift of life, an array of organ and tissue recipients, and people who are currently waiting for their second chance.

Quilts representing the lives of Arizona organ donors also adorned the Senate lawn. As part of DNA’s aftercare program, families contribute 8-inch patches and present them at a quilt-pinning ceremony with other people touched by donation to commemorate their loved ones.

Throughout the day, DNA staff members and Donate Life Arizona volunteers met with more than 30 legislators to share the details of these journeys to highlight the importance of donation. Katie Benton, a DNA public relations supervisor, helps coordinate Donate Life Day at the Capitol. She says she has witnessed the growth of legislator interest each year at the event.

“This day gives lawmakers the opportunity to see the faces behind donation and hear the stories of those who have been personally touched,” says Benton. “We are truly advancing a culture of donation, one personal story at a time.”

Ambassador Spotlight: Thomas Gammill



A profound connection to a stranger’s generosity compelled Thomas Gammill to give back as an ADOT MVD Ambassador.
Photo source: Yavapai College

“I was stunned,” says Gammill, a father and driving school owner. “I wasn’t ready for that news.”

Gammill wanted a second opinion and moved from San Diego to Prescott, Arizona, where he still lives. Nonetheless, he ultimately needed a heart transplant, and his rare B positive blood type would make it challenging to match with a donor.

For 47 months after the bad news, Gammill grew more ill. His church in Prescott had a prayer chain keeping him going. On April 24, 1992, those prayers were finally answered. Gammill received a call there was a heart available. A 21-year-old donor saved Gammill’s life.

Gammill was out of the hospital in a week, ready to support the Phoenix Suns in the playoffs as a season ticket holder.

The man who saved Gammill’s life registered at a California Department of Motor Vehicles location when he got his license. For this reason, Gammill’s holds the ambassador program close to heart.

He is the main point of contact for the Arizona Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Division (ADOT MVD) office in Prescott. He delivers newsletters, supplies Donate Life promotional items, and talks about donation with ADOT MVD team members for “as long as [the program has] been around.”

“The [MVD] employees are the backbone of the ambassador program,” Gammill says. “If I keep donation at the front of their minds, I feel like I’m making a difference.”

In 1988, at 37 years old, Thomas Gammill only had six months to live.

DonateLifeAZ Registry

3,637,432

(as of May 17, 2019)

From Jan. - April 2019 ...

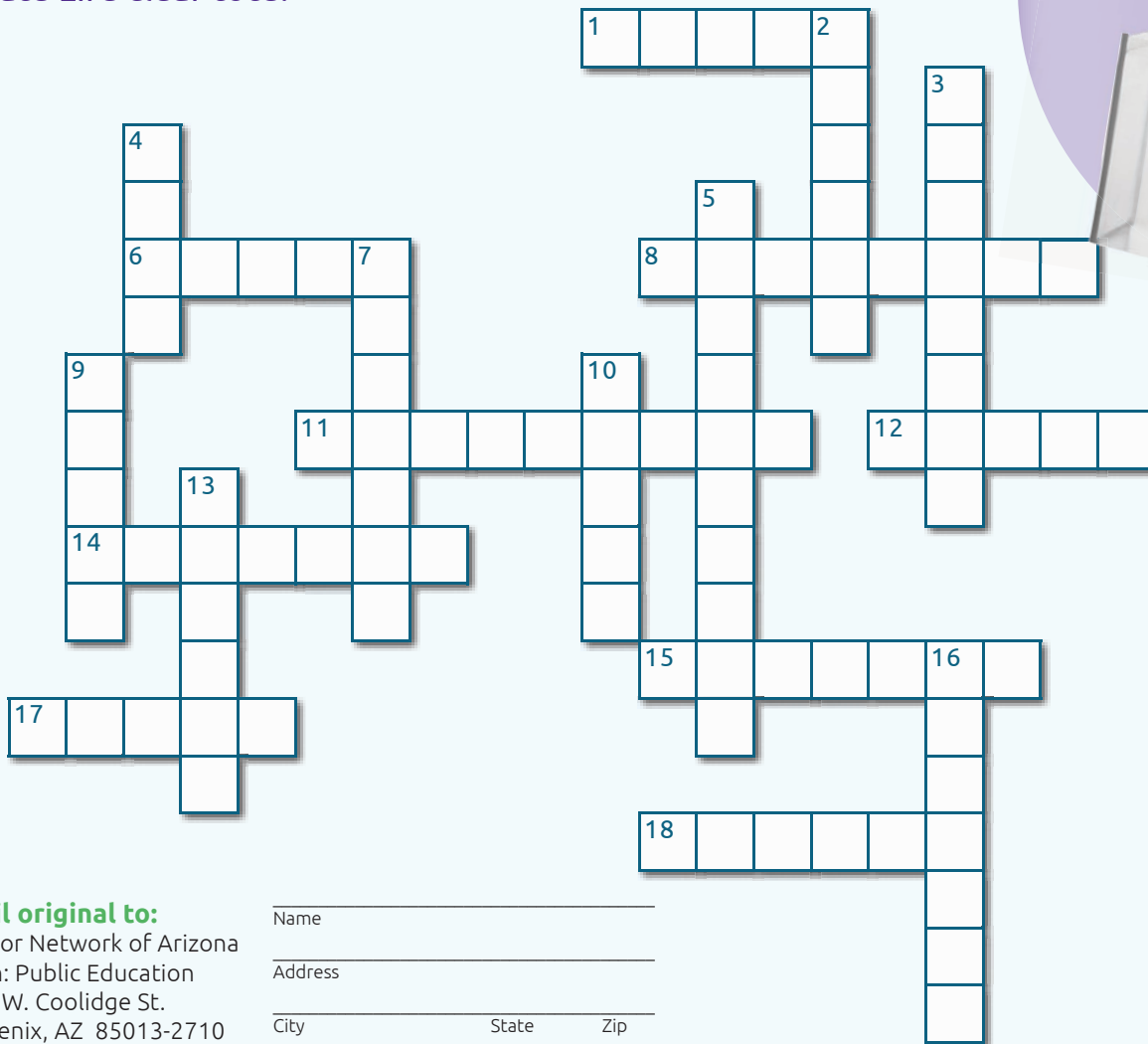
101 organ donors gave the gift of life.

59 of those donors were registered.

43 of those registered donors checked the box at an Arizona MVD.

121 lives were saved from the 43 MVD registered donors.

Mail in your completed crossword puzzle to receive a free
Donate Life clear tote!



Mail original to:

Donor Network of Arizona
Attn: Public Education
201 W. Coolidge St.
Phoenix, AZ 85013-2710

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____

**Answers to this puzzle can be found throughout the newsletter.*

across

1. Heather Jauregui was born with a ____ defect.
6. Every ADOT MVD employee has a ____ role in making donation possible.
8. Heather Jauregui is here today because of tissue ____.
11. "We are all born with the ability to change lives." This phrase was chosen by transplant ____ Jessica Drey.
12. Jacob ____ is a donor who saved three people and healed countless others.
14. This summer, DNA will have a training video about the organ, tissue, and cornea donation ____.
15. ____ is now witnessing another inspiring year in organ and tissue donation.
17. Thomas Gammill is a father and a driving school ____.
18. ____ representing the lives of Arizona organ donors adorned the Senate lawn at Donate Life Day at the Capitol.

down

2. ____ Gammill is Prescott's MVD Ambassador.
3. Jessica Drey was able to share the story of her donor, _____ Elzy, to her legislators for Donate Life Day at the Capitol.
4. The work DNA does truly is an invitation for donor families to grieve, to heal and to be certain no one will forget their loved ones who went on to ____ and heal lives.
5. DNA staff members and Donate Life Arizona ____ met with legislators to highlight the importance of donation.
7. The man who saved Gammill's life registered at a California Department of Motor Vehicles location when he got his ____.
9. The new headquarters for the gift of life in Arizona will be in ____.
10. DNA will release a training ____ for ADOT MVD employees.
13. There has been extensive growth in registered organ, tissue and ____ donors in Arizona.
16. Heather Jauregui plans to go into ____ or cardiology.

Registering to be an Organ and Tissue Donor at the Motor Vehicle Division:

Behind the DONOR ♥

1

The client checks the box on their DL/ID application. Their decision is entered into the ADOT MVD computer system.

2

A temporary credential is issued for the client featuring the **DONOR ♥** insignia. The insignia is also printed on the permanent credential sent to the client in the mail several weeks later.

3

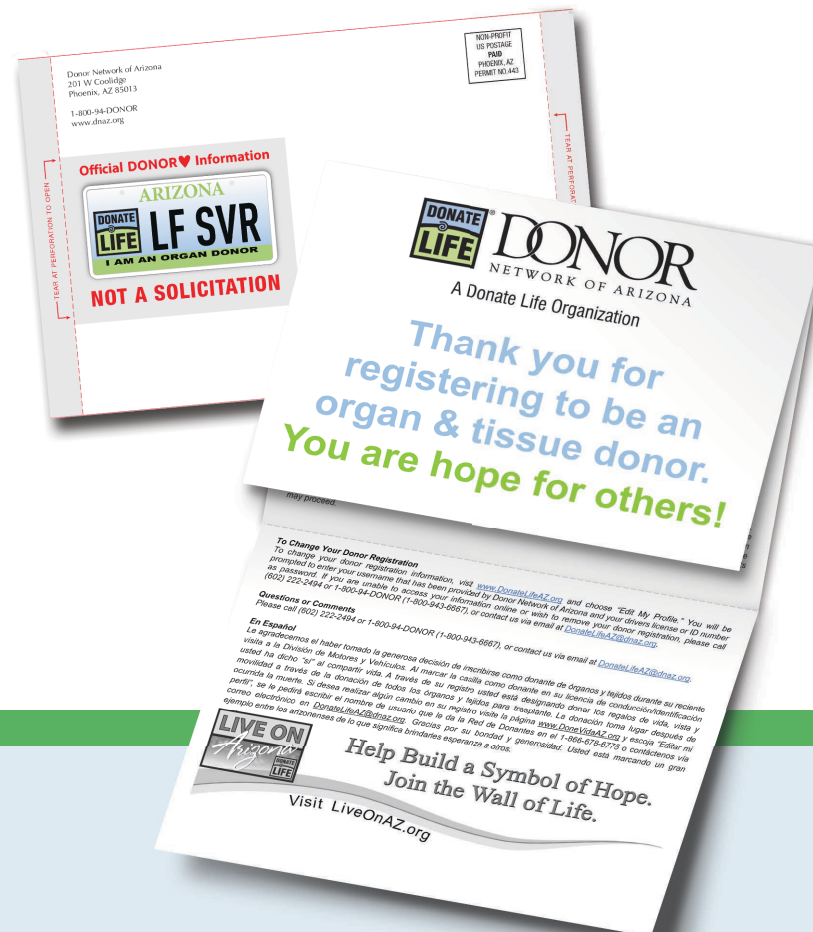
Each week, the ADOT MVD computer system automatically sends information of the clients who registered to the DonateLifeAZ Registry.

4

Information is automatically uploaded into the DonateLifeAZ Registry. New registrations are added and updates are made to existing records as part of this process.

5

Within four to six weeks, all new registrants are sent a letter from Donor Network of Arizona detailing how their decision can save and heal lives through organ and tissue donation.



Contact Us:

For more information, please contact
602-241-5550.



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