



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

JESSE WHITE • Secretary of State

August 1, 2022

2022 NATIONAL MINORITY DONOR AWARENESS MONTH **Message from Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White**

In August, the Illinois Organ/Tissue Donor Program observes National Minority Donor Awareness Month by providing materials and information to educate people on the need for those in multicultural communities to register as organ/tissue donors.

This year, we are collaborating with the Illinois State Library to reach people by providing materials to all public and academic libraries across Illinois. As State Librarian, I hope you will visit your local library in August to learn more about the program and take the opportunity to join the registry.

There are **more than 106,000** people on the national transplant waiting list. Like America, the list is diverse – it includes people of every age, ethnicity and gender. While minorities make up 36% of the U.S. population, they comprise 58% of those on the national transplant waiting list.

While transplants are, many times, successful between ethnicities, the long-term success of a transplant can be better within a common genetic background. A more ethnically diverse donor pool may help shorten the waiting list for everyone, and we encourage individuals in multicultural communities to join the registry.

Please share this information with your friends and family. You can find additional information on our website at www.LifeGoesOn.com and by visiting us on social media. For more information, please call 800-210-2106.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jesse White".

Jesse White

Illinois Secretary of State and State Librarian



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