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Monthly news and information about organ and tissue donation from LifeCenter Northwest. To subscribe to the Gift, [click here](#).

Partnering with hospitals and communities in Alaska, Montana, North Idaho, and Washington to save lives through organ and tissue donation.

the GIFT



LifeCenter
Northwest

Monthly Newsletter

April 2020

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A Message From Our CEO, Kevin O'Connor

On behalf of LifeCenter Northwest, I want to thank you and your teams for all you are doing to help others during this coronavirus pandemic. Your courage, compassion and commitment to providing high-quality care inspire us all.

Despite the challenges presented by COVID-19, our clinical staff are continuing to pursue every opportunity to honor the donation decisions of donors and their families, in close partnership with your teams. Organ and tissue donation is designated as an essential



function by CMS, and our staff are following all CDC recommendations and individual hospital infection control protocols to ensure everyone's safety.

As always, we are focused on our mission of working together to save lives through donation and transplantation. I'm personally inspired by all of the powerful donation stories contained in our [2019 Annual Report](#), which I encourage you to read.

In the report, we highlight five hospitals chosen for the 2019 Hospital Awards—sharing the achievement of our hospital partners whose outstanding performance showcased their commitment to donation and transplantation.

With deep appreciation for your continued support of our life-saving work,

- Kevin O'Connor, President and CEO of LifeCenter Northwest

LifeCenter Northwest Is Grateful For Frontline Workers!



As you can see, LifeCenter Northwest's staff (and pets) are extremely grateful for everyone working on the front lines. Thank you for continuing to save lives during the COVID-19 pandemic!

2019 Annual Report

Last year was another major milestone year for LifeCenter Northwest! Learn all about our extraordinary collaborative achievements in our 2019 Annual Report:

- [Magazine-style viewer for 2019 Annual Report](#)
- [Direct link to downloadable PDF of 2019 Annual Report](#)

2019 Donation Excellence Award Winner: Providence Alaska Medical Center



The Donation Excellence Award is presented to one hospital in our service area that has demonstrated impressive outcomes, strong and effective processes and unwavering dedication to improving the lives of both donor families and transplant recipients. This year, we honor Providence Alaska Medical Center (PAMC) in Anchorage, Alaska!

PAMC achieved a superb level of dedication and support of the organ donation process in 2019. The hospital produced exceptional increases in key metrics and improved outcomes for donor families and transplant recipients. From the nursing staff to physician groups and leadership, these outcomes were fueled by support and engagement at all levels. In 2019, the generosity of 25 organ donors saved the lives of 63 people—a record high for the hospital.

This success is due in part to a supportive donation council and a focus by unit leaders and donation champions on building a culture that prioritizes donation. Additionally, PAMC

goes above and beyond to honor donors in a number of ways including a donation honor wall, unit-based honor walks, National Donate Life Month activities and flag-raising, just to name a few. The partnership and collaboration between LifeCenter Northwest and PAMC has strengthened year after year. The impressive number of lives saved in 2019 is a testament to the hard work and commitment of PAMC's staff.

Our 2019 award winners and list of all hospitals in our region honored with an achievement award are listed in our [Annual Report](#).

April: National Donate Life Month



We celebrate our partners at Swedish Medical Center in Seattle (First Hill Campus & Cherry Hill Campus), who took time out of their busy schedules to raise the "Donate Life" flag at the beginning of April (pictured above). Jennifer Collins, Swedish Cherry Hill's Director of Nursing and Inpatient Services, explained she was sad about the COVID-19 pandemic preventing their traditional large group flag-raising ceremony, but still had reason for optimism:

"The sun came out, an eagle flew past and we were able to raise our Donate Life flag in honor of Donor Awareness Month and all of those who give the gift of life," Jennifer said. "Here's to hoping for a bigger celebration next year!"

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the annual celebration of National Donate Life Month has looked a little different for all of us this April. With all in-person events canceled, LifeCenter Northwest and Donate Life America have instead been honoring donors, recipients and their families & caregivers on our respective [social media channels](#) and [blogs](#).

We're deeply thankful for the clinical teams continuing their dedicated work during these challenging times. Your work truly honors the gift of donation and saves the lives of those waiting for a second chance at life.

[Click here to find your hospital representative and CEU opportunities](#)

LifeSaver Series: David Kidd, RN, MultiCare Good Samaritan Hospital



Each month, LifeCenter Northwest selects a LifeSaver Award winner. This award honors and recognizes those who demonstrate a commitment to improving donation outcomes and culture through their actions, time and energy. We are proud to announce that David Kidd, RN, from MultiCare Good Samaritan Hospital in Puyallup, Wash. is our latest LifeSaver Award winner!

David was a relatively new ICU nurse at Good Samaritan at the time of this recent donation, but he demonstrated the strength and skill of someone with decades of experience. In an impressive and rare display of endurance, David worked diligently on this case from start to finish—keeping the organ donor stable for 12 hours and staying in the hospital room for that entire time. David kept a level head during an extremely stressful and demanding situation and truly bent over backwards to support the donor’s family, the donor and LifeCenter’s staff throughout the donation process.

Crucially, David’s dedication allowed time for the donor’s family to arrive at Good Samaritan prior to donation. Once they arrived, David quickly established a trusting relationship with the family and ensured they had all the time and space they needed to say a full goodbye to their loved one. During this time, David also regularly updated the LifeCenter staff members on-site and ensured the organ donation remained viable—which required extraordinary focus and medical skill.

Once the family was ready, David effectively partnered with LifeCenter to advance the donation conversation. The family was fully supportive of donation, and—since David’s patient was a registered organ, eye and tissue donor in Washington—David’s excellent work allowed the donor to save lives.

In a powerful display of support that showed just how much David is valued, more than 20 of his colleagues at Good Samaritan Hospital attended David’s recent LifeSaver Award ceremony. For going above and beyond to ensure this complicated donation was

successful—and embodying the generous spirit of organ donation—LifeCenter Northwest is proud to honor David with our LifeSaver Award!

Regional Donation Celebrations

We welcome you to join us this summer at one of our regional Donation Celebrations! These events allow our donation community, including medical professionals, to be honored and celebrate the gift of life. The events are free and include a shared meal and short program with recipient guest speakers.

We're continuing to monitor stay-at-home orders for Montana and Washington. We will be in touch if any of these events are postponed, modified, or canceled.

Please RSVP by [clicking here](#), and check out full details below:

Billings

May 30, 2020 | 11:30 a.m. doors open / 12 p.m. event begins
The Big Horn Resort, 1801 Majestic Lane, Billings, MT 59102

Missoula

May 31, 2020 | 11:30 a.m. doors open / 12 p.m. event begins
The Barn on Mullan, 8500 Mullan Rd, Missoula, MT 59808

Spokane

July 11, 2020 | 11:30 a.m. doors open / 12 p.m. event begins
CenterPlace, 2426 N Discovery Pl, Spokane Valley, WA 99216

Bellevue

July 26, 2020 | 10:30 a.m. doors open / 11 a.m. event begins
Hyatt Regency Bellevue, 900 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue, WA 98004



Please RSVP at least two weeks prior: www.lcnw.org/celebration
or by calling LifeCenter Northwest at **425.201.6600**

Story of Hope

The simple choice that saves a life



Chance Presmyk, organ donor

Chance had an adventurous spirit. If he saw something he wanted, he went for it. He lived his dream of moving to Alaska and working on a commercial fishing vessel. Unfortunately, at age 20, his life ended too soon. Chance was a registered organ donor and shared his wishes with his family. He was able to save five lives through his gifts.

By making the referral call within
60 minutes of clinical triggers
and time of death,
you can change a life.

1-888-543-3287

"He lived more in 20 years
than most people do in
a lifetime. I think it's
incredible so many people
were able to continue living
because of Chance."

Kimber Presmyk
Chance's mother



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