

## To Our Partners

Dear Multicultural Donation Supporter,

National Multicultural Donor Awareness Month (NMDAM) is almost here again, and we need your help communicating our lifesaving message digitally across our #NevadaStrong community. Acceptance, diversity and inclusion are at the forefront of our messaging every year. This is the heart of #DonateLife, which revolves around saving and healing lives through organ, eye and tissue donation. When a heroic donor says "YES" to donation, recipients around the world are grateful for the HOPE it gives while they wait. Can you help us spread the message? This outreach kit will make your continued support easy. It includes suggested content, talking points and graphics related to the message.

Thanks for your continued support,

Nevada Donos Network

### Connection to the Cause

#### Angelo Reyes, Liver Recipient

In June of 2022, Angelo's relative stopped him to ask if he was feeling ok because his eyes were yellow. Angelo blamed it on the old lighting, but a few days later his skin also turned yellow. He started to feel some fatigue, but then things got serious because he quickly gained weight and his urine turned dark brown. His family pushed him to go to the hospital. Within 48 hours of the Fourth of July, he was evaluated and then subsequently diagnosed with end-stage liver failure. During this time, Angelo learned he was born with



Chronic Hepatitis B. This was when the pressure really started because he was told that without a new liver, he would have approximately 30 days to live. Angelo was transferred by ambulance to House Medicine's liver transplant program in Southern California. By July 10th, he was listed for transplant. His care team was astonished when he arrived because they normally see patients in his condition in the intensive care unit and unconscious. By July 16th, Angelo underwent surgery because his perfect match arrived in time. When he woke up incredibly drowsy from the procedure, he asked for a piece of paper and a pen. He wrote a note with his transplant team's names and a message of gratitude for saving his life. Without the ultimate gift, Angelo wouldn't be here today.

### Connection to the Cause Alana McDonald

#### **Donor Hero**

Alana McDonald was a true donor hero who left a beautiful legacy behind. Her mother shared, "Alana was the most giving, kind and joyful young woman you could have met. She was a force of nature. Alana was incredibly passionate about her goals and learning. She pushed herself and others to be the best versions of themselves. As a future pediatric nurse,

she always wanted to save lives. With the number of lives she has impacted and touched, Alana will never be gone and lives on in our lives and memories. She left us inspired to work hard and stay committed to our endeavors. Her memory picks us up at our weakest moments and carries us to our individual finish lines. Through every path of hardship or controversy we face, Alana will be there, walking the path with us. Nothing will be the same without her. We may have had to say goodbye, but she lives on. Alana will always be remembered for her bravery, strength and will forever be missed

### Important Facts

When someone says 'YES' to organ, eye and tissue donation they make the gift of life possible for eight people through organ donation; the gift of healing possible for 75 or more through tissue donation; and the gift of sight for two people through cornea donation.

- 60% of Americans waiting for an organ transplant are from a multicultural background
- In 2022, nearly 21,500 organ transplants were received by individuals in multicultural communities
- There were 5,201 donor heroes in 2022 from a multicultural background

According to the **United Network for Organ Sharing** (UNOS), transplants can be successful regardless of the race or ethnicity of the donor and recipient. The chance of longer-term survival may be greater if the donor and recipient are closely matched in terms of their shared genetic background. Successful transplantation is often enhanced by the matching of organs between members of the same ethnic and racial group.

# Social Content & Mose Information

**YOU** can help spread awareness about National Multicultural Donation Awareness Month by sharing our ready-to-post social media graphics and content! Learn

more at www.nvdonor.org/nmdam

Be sure to follow Nevada Donor Network on all of your social channels for more important information!



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