

# DrivingHope

A newsletter for SD driver's license partners



## New Resources & Materials

I am excited to introduce the new *Driving Hope* newsletter! This newsletter will be sent out a few times a year to the offices of all driver's license (DL) partners in South Dakota and is a resource for you to update your teams on the latest data, get to know fellow DL partners, and for information on changes and upcoming events.

### Smaller Handouts

The first update I want to provide you is that we now have new, smaller handouts available. This smaller, condensed version of the *Your Decision* brochure is now available on the Materials Request Form and will be offered in addition to the brochure-size *Your Decision* flyer that you are familiar with.

The Minnesota DL partners have been stapling the smaller donor document card with the paperwork of every driver's license and state ID transaction. I encourage you all to order the new smaller donor document card as another resource for your customers.

### Blue and Green Day

The second update this month is the introduction of Blue & Green Day to all of the DL offices in our service area. Included with this newsletter is more information on how your office can get involved with this fun way to spread awareness about organ, eye and tissue donation and transplantation.

Issue 1 | March 2016

### Upcoming Events

Blue and Green Day!  
April 15<sup>th</sup> 2016

For more information,  
please read the enclosed flyer

### Did You Know?...

The oldest organ  
donor was  
93 years old.

### Materials

All materials are free of charge  
and can be ordered at  
[www.DonateLifeSD.org/order](http://www.DonateLifeSD.org/order)

- Brochures
- Donor document cards *New!*
  - Pens
  - Wrist bands
  - Counter mats
  - Posters
  - Clipboards

# Spotlight

## Misty D. Gunderson South Dakota Driver Licensing



My name is Misty D. Gunderson and I am an employee of the State of South Dakota and I work in the division of Public Safety in Driver Licensing. I have worked in this position since July 2007. I live in Pierre, SD where we enjoy the great outdoors in many ways. Some of us like to play on the river, either boating or fishing; we also hunt and are blessed with a community where we have many activities for families of all ages.

When my second child was born we were told Grace's kidneys were very sick and she would need to have a kidney transplant among other things. When Grace had completed the 5th grade it was time for her transplant. We however were fortunate to have a live donor. Grace's Father donated a kidney to her and her life changed forever. She was now growing so fast that when we took her out of the hospital after the surgery we needed to buy her an entire wardrobe. The clothes we had for her were way too small and the shoes were so small we skipped an entire size. It was so wonderful to see her grow in size and her mind worked so much better in school, she had stamina that was never seen in her before.

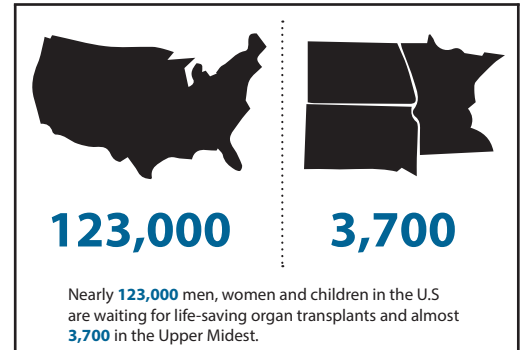
When people come into get a driver license and come to the part of the application where they have the opportunity to check the box for donor participation, I am often asked about what they can and can not use, whether or not they are too old or that they think they are not healthy enough. I remind them that science has come so far and that someday if I have the opportunity to give the gift of life no matter what I have if they CAN use it, do it, and help someone else! What they can't use today they may be able to someday soon.

*I know first hand how it changes lives for the better.  
I know the **renewed** gift of life.*

### Donor Designation (DD)

Donor Designation	Registered Donors	%
Minnesota	2,551,853	62
North Dakota	404,488	72
South Dakota	394,289	62
<b>Region Total (Q1, 2015)</b>	<b>3,350,630</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>National Total (2014)</b>	<b>124,823,866</b>	<b>51</b>

4th quarter, 2014  
Percentage of 18+ population for comparison purposes



### Good Question!

*Should my age or health condition influence my decision to become an organ and tissue donor?*

Anyone can register. While medical history and age are factors, most people CAN donate. People with diabetes, hepatitis, and cancer sometimes CAN donate their organs. Age and health criteria are evaluated individually.



**Emily Laughlin**  
Community Partnership Coordinator  
LifeSource  
elaughlin@life-source.org

2225 West River Road N.  
Minneapolis MN 55411  
612.800.6252 (ph)  
612.845.8840 (cell)

