Facts about Organ and Tissue Donation

• Each year there are approximately 2,500 people in Michigan waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant; more than 2,000 of these Michigan residents are waiting for a kidney transplant.

• In 2021, the generosity of Michigan’s 429 organ donors resulted in 1,089 life-saving organ transplants. Another 1,464 donors provided the gift of tissue for thousands of patients in need. *Source: Gift of Life Michigan

• There is an organ donor shortage in our state and in our nation.

• Organs and tissues that can be transplanted, after a person has died, include kidneys, heart, liver, lungs, pancreas, bones, corneas, skin and other soft tissues.

• Another way to obtain organs and tissues for transplantation is from people who are alive. Kidneys, bone marrow, partial liver, lung and pancreas can come from living donors.

• Organ and tissue donation is supported by all major religions.

• There is no charge to you or your family for donation.

• Donation involves a surgical procedure to remove the needed organs and tissues.

• Donation does not interfere with funeral arrangements or alter your body’s appearance.

• Putting your name on the Michigan Organ & Tissue Donor Registry and talking to your family are the most important things you can do to indicate your wish to become an organ donor after your death.

• For more information on organ donation and how you can add your name to the organ donor registry, visit www.nkfm.org/ordandonation.

• Your decision to be a living kidney donor could be lifesaving for another person. Donating your organs after death could mean the “gift of life” for many people.