

50K
ORGAN TRANSPLANTS
IN 2026



The Association of Organ Procurement Organizations (AOPO) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit representing 48 Organ Procurement Organizations (OPOs) in the United States. The 50,000 Annual Organ Transplants in 2026 goal focuses on increasing organ donation and transplantation by expanding collaboration among stakeholders, creating a more equitable system, maximizing organ utilization, and driving innovation and research to save more lives.

Message From AOPO CEO



Two years ago, we launched the 50K Annual Organ Transplants in 2026 Campaign to save more lives. The bar is set high and is intended to motivate OPOs and stakeholders to increase donation and transplantation rates across the country. The 50K Report provides an overview of the ongoing, coordinated efforts led by AOPO to improve system-wide effectiveness. AOPO is working with OPOs, donor hospitals, transplant centers, government entities, and national partners to identify and cultivate solutions to common system challenges and share successful practices. The initiatives sparked by the 50K goal are aligned with our collective vision to pursue the day when every donation opportunity results in lives saved.

Steve Miller, MBA, CAE
Chief Executive Officer

Message From AOPO President

OPOs continue to make strides in optimizing the number of available organs for transplant from deceased donors. Notably, **42 OPOs increased deceased donors recovered in 2022 over 2021, and 38 OPOs set records for the most deceased donors in a calendar year.** OPOs are vital to the facilitation of the organ donation process and work tirelessly every day to procure every available organ. We are so proud of the lifesaving work our professionals do. It's also through the generosity of donors and their families that we are able to save more lives each year.



Barry Massa
LifeCenter Organ Donor Network

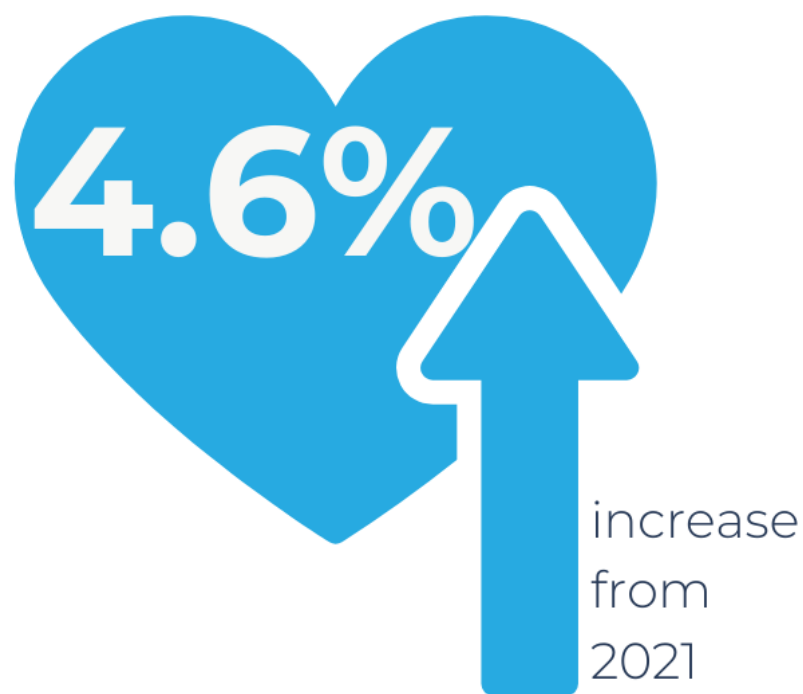


A Record-Breaking YEAR

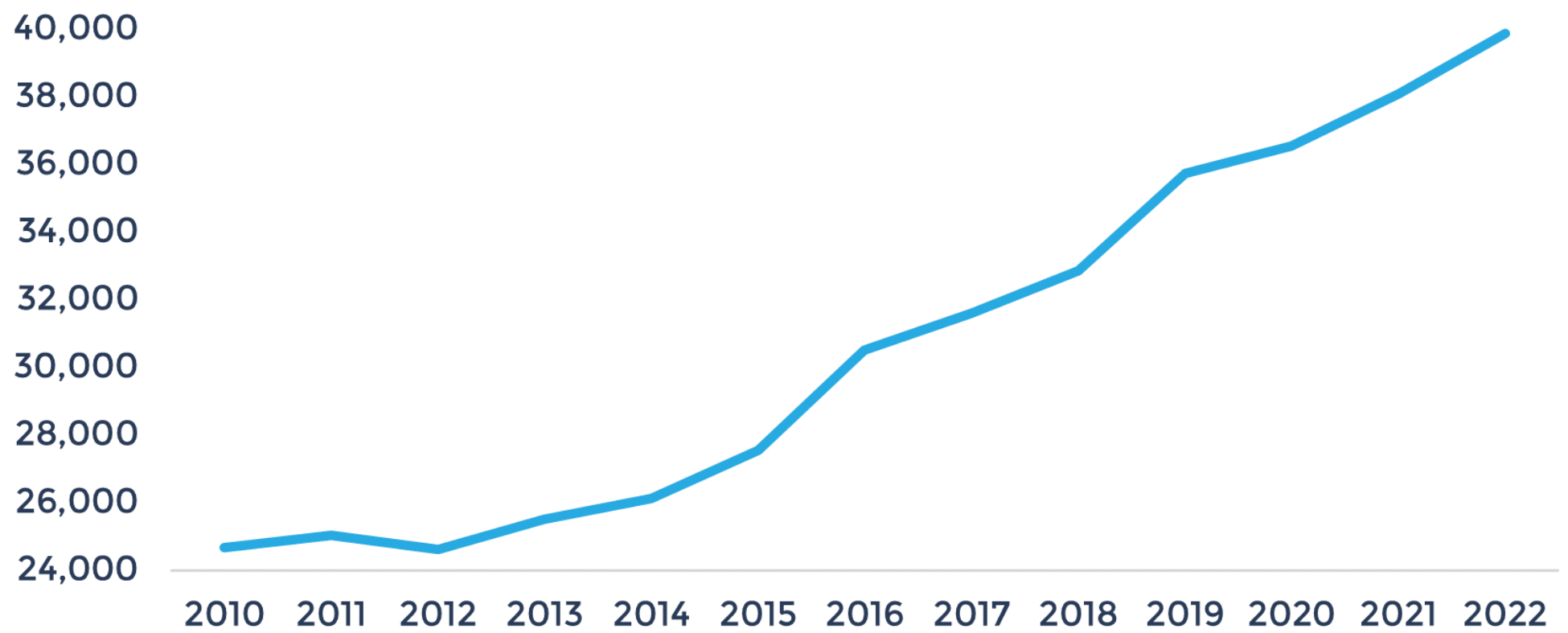
The Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) released 2022 year-end data showing record increases in organ donation and transplantation. The results continue to demonstrate upward progression toward our goal of 50,000 annual organ transplants in 2026.

39,860

organs transplanted from deceased organ donors in **2022**



Organs Transplanted From Deceased Donors



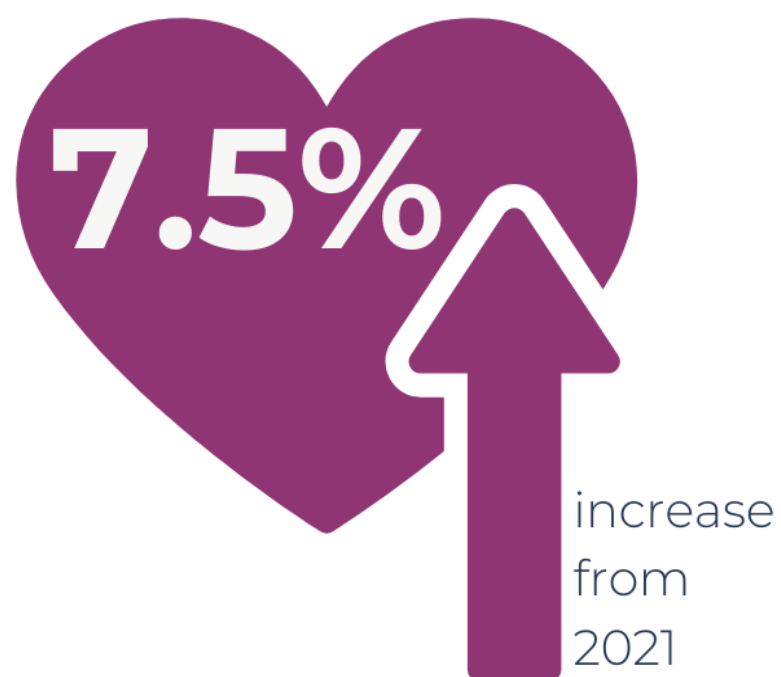
12th
CONSECUTIVE YEAR OF DECEASED DONATION INCREASES

117
ORGAN TRANSPLANTS EVERY DAY ON AVERAGE

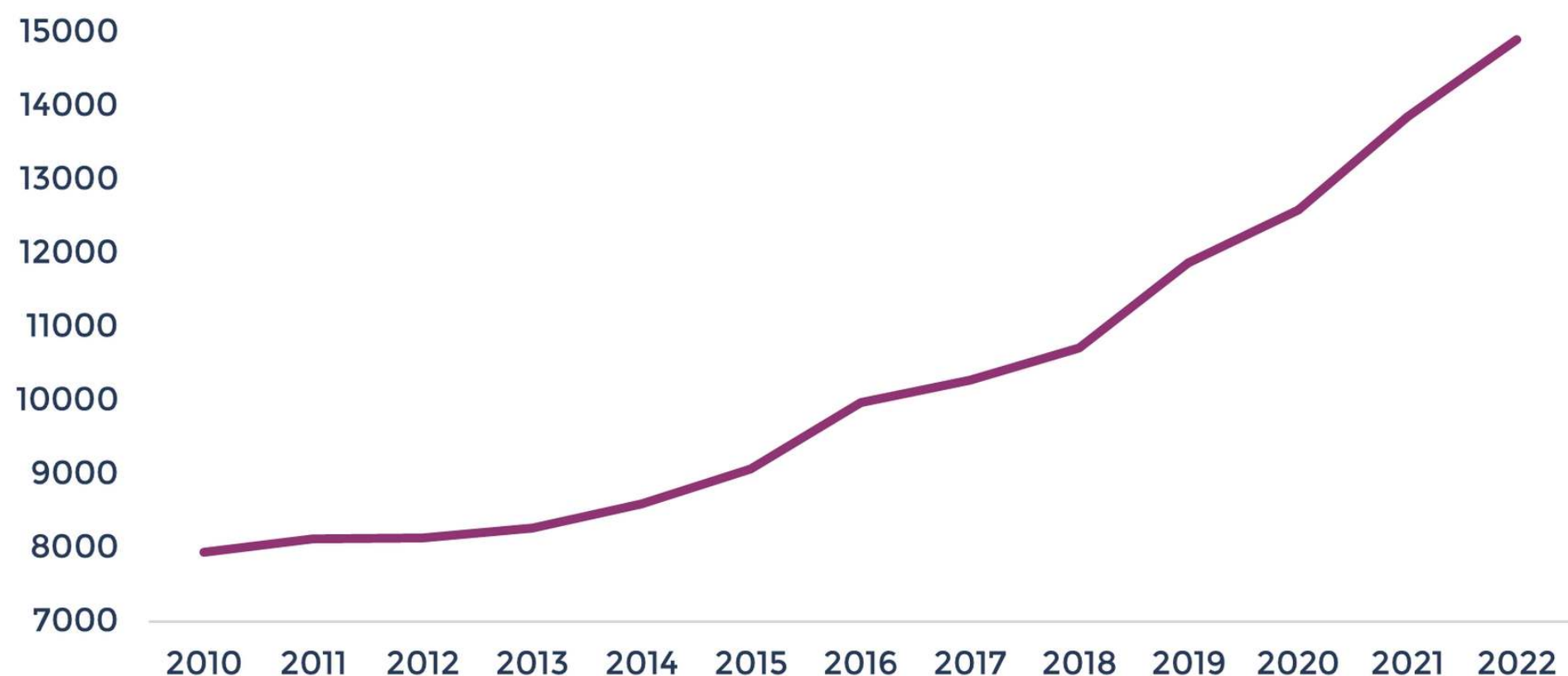
14%
INCREASE IN DONATION AFTER CIRCULATORY DETERMINATION OF DEATH (DCDD) DONORS

14,904

deceased organ donors in **2022**



Deceased Organ Donors



**Based on OPTN data as of February 28, 2023*

The first pillar of the 50K goal is to expand collaboration across AOPO membership and among all stakeholders.



National Partners

Collaborations with national partner organizations that share a united mission with AOPO is essential to meeting the 50K goal. AOPO collaborates with Donate Life America (DLA), NATCO, The Alliance, National Kidney Foundation (NKF), American Society of Transplantation (AST), American Society of Transplant Surgeons (ASTS), Association of Multicultural Affairs in Transplantation (AMAT), American Association of Tissue Banks (AATB), Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA), MOTTEP, and the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS).

HRSA DoNation Campaign

AOPO is a co-sponsor for the HRSA DoNation Campaign, aimed at promoting organ donation in workforces across the United States. The goal of the campaign is to increase the number of registered donors from all communities.

OPO IMPACT Improvement Program

AOPO launched an IMPACT Improvement Program for its membership to help OPOs identify areas of organizational growth, share successful practices from leading experts, and monitor implementation outcomes. The aim of the IMPACT Improvement Program is to administer an OPO needs assessment and equip OPOs with recommendations and tools to operate more efficiently and effectively.

AOPO Meetings

AOPO hosts educational conferences each year, including an Annual Meeting, Leadership Development Summit, Directors Workshop, and Financial Management Meeting for OPO members and community partners to collaborate, learn, and share successful practices to save more lives through organ donation and transplantation.

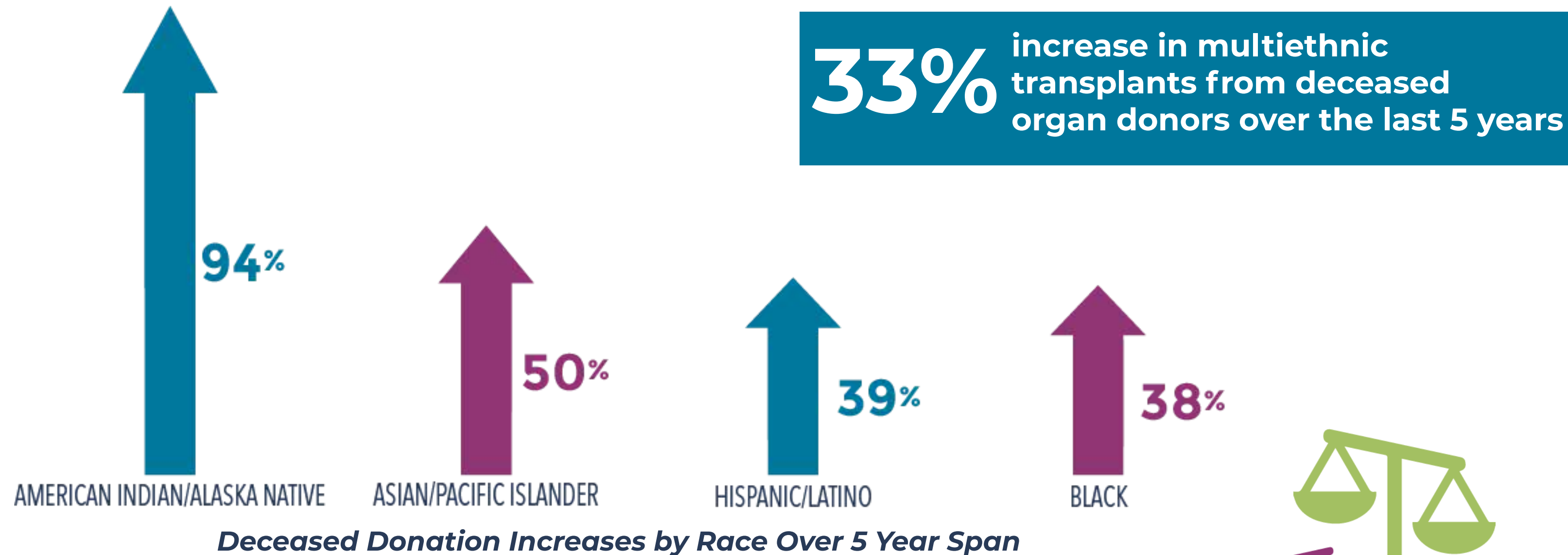
Advocacy Efforts

AOPO participates in regulatory activities to share its unique perspective as the national voice of OPOs. AOPO and its Members continue to engage with members of Congress about the complex and lifesaving organ donation and transplantation process. Members participate in advocacy days as an opportunity to connect with their Senators, Representatives, and staff to provide ongoing education and continue to build relationships.

REDUCE HEALTH INEQUITIES



The second pillar of the 50K goal is to reduce health inequities to improve accessibility to organ transplants in diverse and underserved communities.



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Assessment Tool

The AOPO DEI Committee administered a DEI Assessment Tool for OPOs to determine opportunities for learning and development in efforts to achieve organ donation and transplantation equity in the U.S. The survey is a baseline assessment of OPOs to identify gaps in programs, services, policies, and relationships with diverse communities.

National Organ, Eye, and Tissue Multicultural Action Group (NMAG)

NMAG, a network of national stakeholders, is working to reach diverse and underserved communities to provide education on organ donation and encourage individuals to register as organ, eye, and tissue donors. NMAG hosts National Minority Donor Awareness Month every August to reach multiethnic communities.

HBCU Programs

AOPO is collaborating with Historically Black College and University (HBCU) Medical Schools to develop pilot programs aimed at increasing the number of Black health professionals in the organ donation and transplantation field, as well as public outreach programs to provide education to communities of color. AOPO, member OPOs, and Meharry Medical College contributed donations to help start the pilot programs.

NASEM Report

The National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) Report, requested by Congress and sponsored by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), is a holistic evaluation of the organ donation and transplantation system. The findings provide a roadmap for OPOs, donor hospitals, transplant centers, and federal entities to improve equity, use more donated organs, and advance system performance.

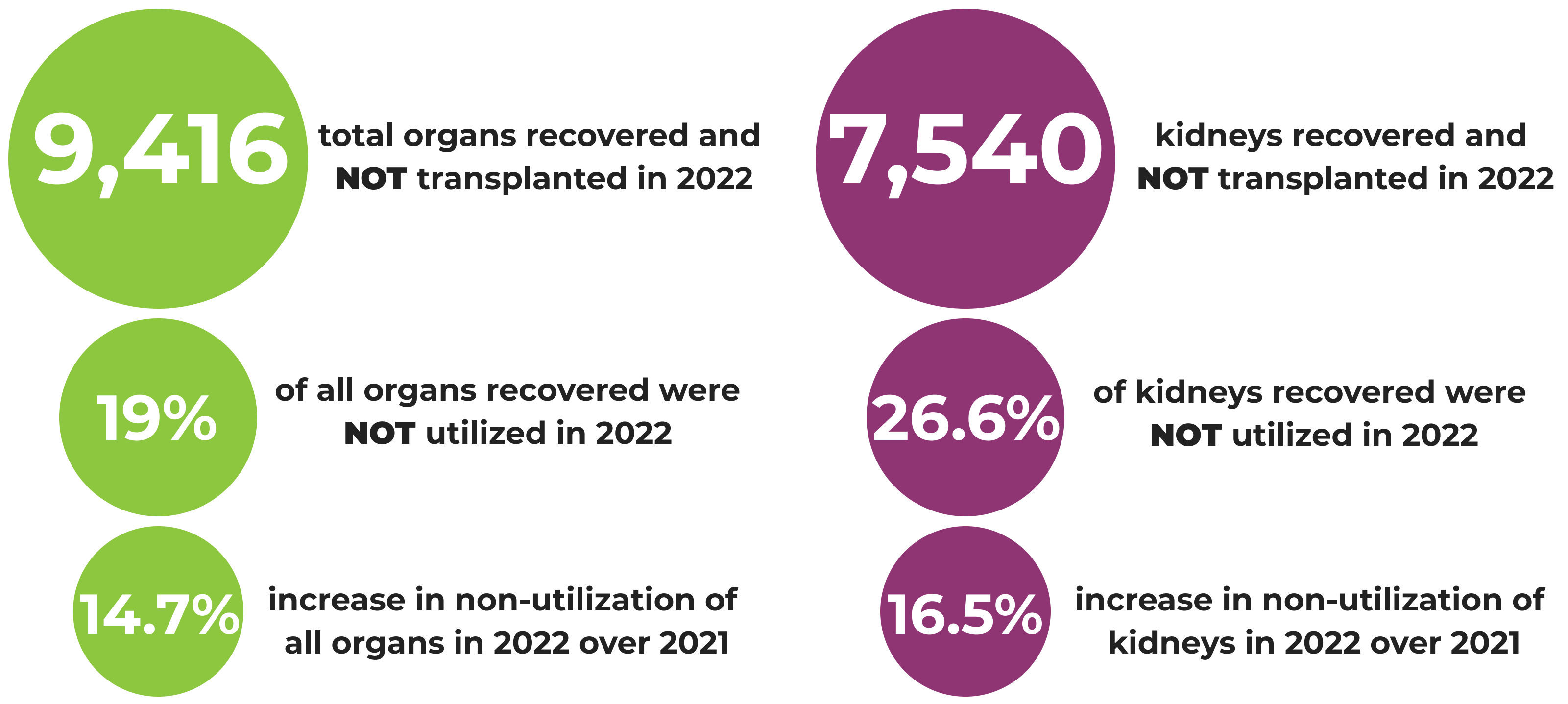
MAXIMIZE ORGAN UTILIZATION



The third pillar of the 50K goal is to maximize organ utilization by transplant programs.



More and more lives are saved each year through the gift of life. However, more than 100,000 patients are still desperately waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant. The donation and transplantation community has more work to do to improve the utilization of available organs for transplantation.



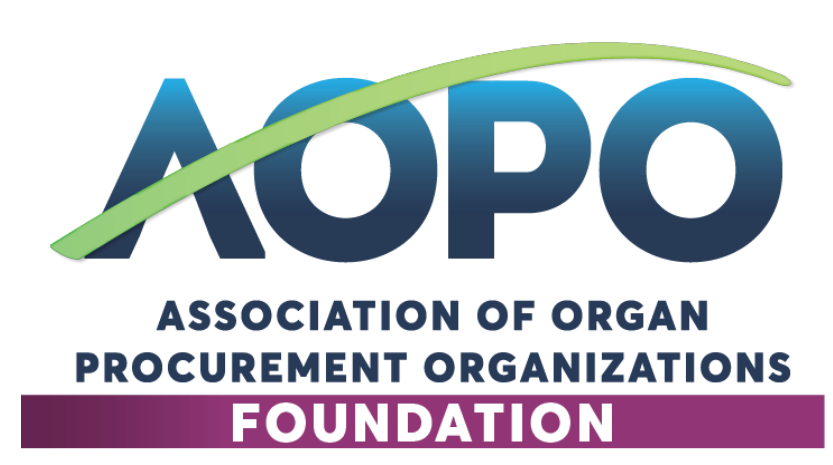
Organs recovered by OPOs and NOT utilized for transplant has doubled in the last 5 years.

According to research highlighted in the NASEM report, 62% of kidneys recovered and not utilized in the U.S. would have been transplanted in France. AOPO continues efforts to increase utilization of more medically complex organs with a higher Kidney Donor Profile Index (KDPI).



CMS and HRSA established the End State Renal Disease Treatment Choices Learning Collaborative (ETCLC) to bring transplant centers, OPOs, donor hospitals, patients, and families together to improve the quality and outcomes of kidney donation and transplantation. AOPO serves on the Leadership Coordinating Council as a national stakeholder. Over the last 5 years, the Collaborative aims to increase the number of deceased donor kidneys transplanted, decrease the current national discard rate, and increase the utilization of high KDPI kidneys.

The fourth pillar of the 50K goal is to drive innovation and research to increase donation and maximize transplantation.



AOPO Foundation

AOPO established a 501(c)3 Foundation to focus on research within the organ donation and transplantation field. The Board of Directors began their terms on January 1, 2023, and will work to develop a strategic plan for the organization.



APOLLO Study

AOPO serves as the OPO liaison to the NIH-sponsored APOLLO study which investigates the impact of a common gene (APOL1) found in individuals of African descent that attributes to higher cases of kidney disease. The study requires samples from deceased donors and organ recipients to analyze transplant outcomes. 91% of OPOs participate in the APOLLO research and AOPO recently sent a letter of continued support.



Industry Partners

AOPO partners with 19 Industry Partners that are diligently working to innovate and create new opportunities for technological advancements in enhancing the referral process, improving OPO team communications, preserving the quality of organs for transplantation, and expediting organ transportation services.

SAVE MORE LIVES



How can you partner with AOPO on the 50K goal?

Register as an organ, eye, and tissue donor:
RegisterMe.org/AOPO50K

Learn more about organ donation and transplantation:
www.aopo.org/get-involved

Stay informed about current projects:
www.aopo.org/50K-transplants

Stay in touch with AOPO:
media@aopo.org and www.aopo.org/media-tool-kit

Show your support and add the 50K badge to your organization's website and email signature.



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