



## *Donation and Transplantation Community of Practice*

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In April, 2003, key national leaders and practitioners from the nation's transplantation, hospital, and medical communities to launch the Organ Donation Breakthrough Collaboratives to rapidly increase the number of deceased donors and number of donor organs made available for transplant. The donation and transplantation community supported these collaboratives and benefited by the rapid sharing of best practices that were identified through review of high-performing organ procurement organizations (OPOs) and donor hospitals. The breakthrough collaborative methodology has proven to be a highly effective way of rapidly disseminating research-supported best practices to broad practice.

The Collaborative effort continues through the Donation and Transplantation Community of Practice (DTCP), the focus of which is to sustain and increase the achievements of the collaboratives and institutionalize identified best practices. The DTCP continues to share knowledge through local and regional networks and interaction with the Donation Service Area Action Teams and Regional Collaboratives. The efforts of the local teams and regional collaboratives culminate in a biennial National Learning Congress. The conference is HRSA's major annual event for educating and recognizing organizations that have met national goals in increasing organ and tissue donation. Through the National Learning Conference, best practices identified and refined through DSA action and regional strategies are shared nationally.

### *Funding*

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Approximately \$3 million is expected to be available annually to fund one cooperative agreement recipient for a 3-year project period beginning September 1, 2011.

### *Participants*

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The DTCP effectively utilizes local and regional networks through Donation Service Area Action Teams and Regional Strategy Teams. There are 58 Action Teams comprising the areas served by each OPO. Each team consists of OPO representatives, donor hospitals, transplant centers, and in some cases, other partners in the donation process (*e.g.*, eye and tissue banks, State hospital association members, donor registry professionals). There are 11 regions designated by the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network in the United States.

A key partner, the Organ Donation and Transplantation Alliance, co-sponsors many DTCP events for healthcare professionals as part of its mission to expand and accelerate the work of the Breakthrough Collaborative series. Donate Life America is an important partner in encouraging the public to register intentions to donate.

### *Key Successes*

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The DTCP works to achieve three national goals by 2013:

- 75 percent Collaborative conversion rate (converting possible donors to actual donors),
- 3.75 organs transplanted per donor, and
- 10 percent of donors being recovered through Donation after Cardiac Determination of Death (DCDD) protocols.

The community has already surpassed two: Collaborative conversion rate is 75.4% and DCDD rate is 11.8%.

More information: <http://healthcarecommunities.org/>