



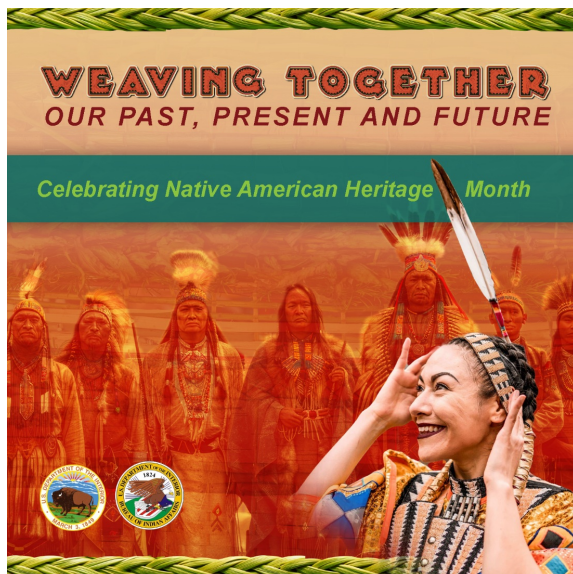
Meeting the Moments by Educating and Empowering Multicultural Communities.

November 2024 | Detroit, MI

Greetings!

Welcome to our monthly newsletter keeping you updated on all the exciting things happening with the Detroit MOTTEP Foundation. As we continue to focus on our mission to empower the community and reduce the need for organ transplantation among ethnic minorities, we appreciate your support. We have several upcoming and ongoing activities and look forward to your continued engagement and participation. - Silas Norman *DMF Board Chair*

"Together we can do great things" - Mother Theresa



Celebrating Native American Heritage Month

This November, we celebrate **Native American Heritage Month**, a time to honor the rich histories, vibrant cultures, and invaluable contributions of Native American communities. This year's national theme, "*Weaving Together our Past, Present and Future*," reflects the enduring resilience and interconnectedness of Indigenous peoples as they honor their heritage while shaping a brighter future.

At The Detroit MOTTEP Foundation, we stand in solidarity with Native American communities and acknowledge their profound impact on our shared history and continued progress. Their stories and traditions are a vital part of the fabric of our nation, and this month is a special opportunity to learn,

reflect, and celebrate together.

We encourage you to deepen your understanding and appreciation of Native American culture by exploring resources and stories highlighting their contributions and experiences. Follow the links we've provided in this newsletter to engage more fully in this celebration, whether through historical accounts, contemporary achievements, or opportunities to support Indigenous communities.

Together, we can honor their legacy and recognize the powerful ways Native Americans continue to inspire and enrich our society.

[White House Proclamation on National Native American Heritage Month, 2024](#)

[Facts for Features: National Native American Heritage Month: November 2024](#)

[National Archives](#)

[U.S. Department of The Interior Indian Affairs](#)

November is National Marrow Awareness Month

National Marrow Awareness Month is celebrated every November to recognize the people and organizations that help save lives through stem cell and bone marrow transplants:

- Donors: People who donate stem cells and bone marrow to help patients with life-threatening blood disorders
- Researchers: Transplant Physicians and researchers who perform transplant research
- Patients: People who receive bone marrow transplants to treat conditions like leukemia, lymphoma, and certain types of anemia



During National Marrow Awareness Month, people can learn more about becoming a donor and consider registering to save lives. A simple cheek swab is all it takes to register. The National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP) also invites healthy individuals to join their registry to help match patients with compatible donors.

The Detroit MOTTEP Foundation honors the dedication of transplant physicians, pioneering researchers, and selfless donors, all of whom bring hope to those facing life-threatening blood disorders. [REGISTER TO BECOME A DONOR](#)

LOCAL NEWS IN ORGAN DONATION

Local Organ donors in Michigan can get a \$10,000 tax credit

by Sara Powers | November 15th 2024 at 12:29 PM | WDIV 4 Detroit



Live organ donors in Michigan can get a tax credit of up to \$10,000 thanks to a new bill Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signed into law on Wednesday.

Under [House Bill 4361](#), live organ donors are eligible for a tax credit to cover expenses related to the donation, including lost wages and medical bills.

Taxpayers can claim the one-time credit the year of the organ donation, the year before, or the year after.

The tax credit can be claimed starting in the 2025 tax year, according to the bill. The bill was sponsored by state Rep. Felica Brabec, D-Pittsfield Township.

“Organ donation means a great deal to me, and I’ve advocated for it passionately during my time in the House. I am proud to continue working to make it easier for Michiganders to become organ donors — changing lives and saving them too,” said Brabec. “This tax credit will help increase donations and save lives by addressing major barriers for potential donors.”

To claim the credit, taxpayers may need to submit verification of the expenses claimed under this tax credit. [**WATCH THE NEWS SEGMENT HERE**](#)



Detroit MOTTEP Foundation

Board Member Spotlight



Sherrie L. Farrell: A Foundational Leader and Champion for MOTTEP's Mission

This month, the Detroit MOTTEP Foundation is proud to spotlight and honor board member Sherrie L. Farrell, whose leadership, dedication, and legal expertise have been instrumental in shaping the foundation's legacy. As a board member since 2008, Sherrie played a pivotal role in the organization's incorporation, helping to establish the foundation's solid framework and ensuring its ability to thrive in its mission to promote organ and tissue donation awareness.

Sherrie L. Farrell brings a wealth of expertise and accomplishments to her role at MOTTEP. She serves as the Office Managing Member for her law firm's Detroit office and is the firm's Chief Diversity Officer, a testament to her commitment to creating opportunities and advancing inclusion within the legal profession and beyond. With a career built on excellence in legal counsel and public relations, Sherrie is a trusted partner for clients navigating complex commercial and legal challenges.

Sherrie's legal career is distinguished by her role as lead counsel in a variety of high-stakes commercial matters, including partnership and lease disputes, breach of contract cases, and bankruptcy disputes. Her previous experience as an award-winning public relations and crisis communications professional has become an invaluable asset in counseling clients on litigation risk management and other critical areas. Her approach emphasizes collaboration, viewing her clients as partners and tailoring solutions to meet their unique business objectives.

Her influence extends nationally, where she has served as National Coordinating Counsel and National Discovery Counsel for Fortune 25 corporations, addressing complex litigation issues involving asbestos, toxic torts, and corporate bankruptcy. Sherrie's cybersecurity expertise is equally impressive; she has spearheaded data security plans, managed data breaches, and developed enterprise-wide cybersecurity policies. Her thought leadership in this area has been widely recognized through her articles, presentations, and advisory roles.

Beyond her professional achievements, Sherrie has remained deeply committed to serving the Detroit community. She has provided counsel to businesses on regional government and public policy issues, working with the City of Detroit under three different mayoral administrations. Her contributions have not gone unnoticed; Sherrie has been named to numerous prestigious lists, including Savoy Magazine's Most Influential Black Lawyers (2022, 2018, 2015), Law360's Minority Powerbrokers, and the 2019 Lawyer of Color's Inaugural Nation's Best List.

Sherrie's impact on the Detroit MOTTEP Foundation is immeasurable. Her guidance, vision, and passion for service have helped propel the organization forward, making her an invaluable asset to the board. Her impressive career and steadfast commitment to MOTTEP's mission serve as an inspiration to us all.

Volunteer Spotlight

Celebrating The Heart Of Our Community

Honoring Tanya Smith: A Champion for Organ Donation and MOTTEP's Mission

This month, the Detroit MOTTEP Foundation honors Tanya Smith, a dedicated supporter whose leadership has been instrumental in the success of our annual Symposium and LIFE Walk & Run.

Tanya recently retired after a remarkable 42-year career in Sales and Marketing, including seven years with Gift of Life MOTTEP as a Community Relations Coordinator. In her first year, she registered over 1,000 organ donors, a testament to her deep connection with the community. She established partnerships with churches, healthcare systems, and state clerks to expand awareness about organ and tissue donation.



Tanya has chaired the Kountz Callender Drew Transplant Symposium annually and continues to lead it even in retirement, reflecting her passion for the mission. She holds a BBA from Eastern Michigan University and a Fund Development certificate, equipping her to engage leaders in advancing lifesaving efforts.

A Detroit native, Tanya now resides in Southfield, where she is active in her church, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and numerous community initiatives. Her love of service is matched by her hobbies, including golf, cooking, travel, and her new passion for pickleball.

Tanya embodies the Golden Rule, and her contributions to MOTTEP are invaluable. Thank you, Tanya, for your invaluable contributions to the Detroit MOTTEP Foundation and for being a shining example of dedication and service!

With heartfelt appreciation,
The Detroit MOTTEP Foundation



GIVING TUESDAY

mark the date because
**YOUR DONATION MAKES
A DIFFERENCE**

detroit  mottep



GIVE HOPE  **GIVE LIFE**
Giving Tuesday December 3rd
www.dmfddetroit.org

Mark Your Calendar and Meet The Moment with Us This Giving Tuesday!

This Giving Tuesday, we invite you to stand with the Detroit MOTTEP Foundation to give hope, give life, and make a lasting difference in our communities. Mark your calendar for December 3rd and join us as we continue to empower lives through health advocacy, organ and tissue donation awareness, and community wellness programs.

For nearly 30 years, your support has fueled programs that bring vital health education and resources to those who need it most. With your help, our footprint throughout multicultural communities has created paths of

inspiring, healthier futures for individuals and families across Michigan.

This year, we're asking you to meet the moment with us. Every gift, big or small, helps advance our mission to bridge health gaps and save lives. We are deeply grateful for your ongoing generosity, and we're excited to make an even bigger impact—together.

Join us on December 3rd to give hope and give life. Let's make a difference, one donation at a time!

[CLICK HERE TO MAKE YOUR GIVING TUESDAY DONATION](#)



Awareness • Education • Empowerment

Empowering Minority Communities for Health, Wellness and Readiness

**Medicaid Moment Sunday:
A Community United**

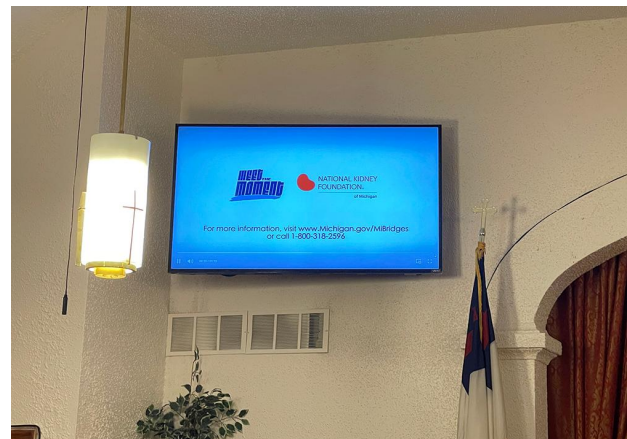
In October, churches across metro Detroit

joined us for Medicaid Moment Sunday, coming together to make a powerful impact on their congregations. During services, churches participated by showing our Medicaid Readiness PSA, delivering crucial information about changes to Michigan Medicaid, and encouraging members to take charge of their health care. The engagement and unity displayed by our faith-based partners were truly inspiring.

Our community health workers have also continued their incredible efforts to spread the Medicaid Readiness message far and wide. From churches and food pantries to local foundations and UAW locals, they have been tirelessly working to ensure our communities are informed and empowered.

We want to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to our community health workers and all who contributed to this initiative. Your dedication and commitment have been nothing short of extraordinary, and you are truly making a difference in the lives of so many.

Together, we are meeting the moment and ensuring that every member of our community has the knowledge and resources they need to navigate these critical Medicaid changes.



[To learn more about our Medicaid Readiness Initiative click here](#)



[Gift of Life Michigan and Detroit MOTTEP](#)



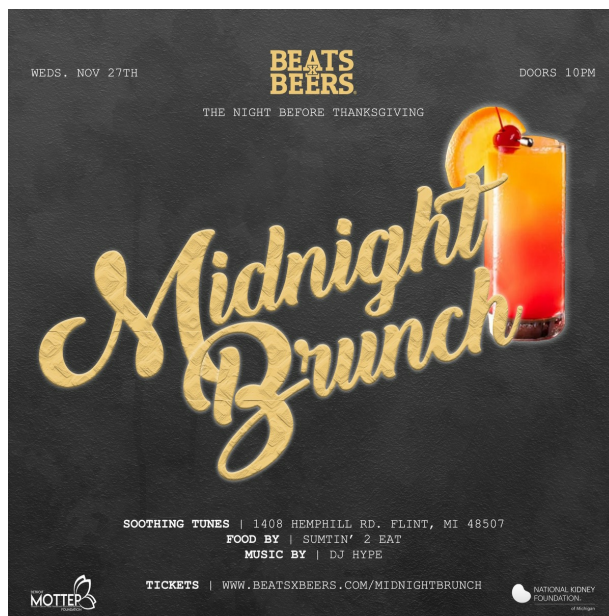
Our partnership with Gift of Life Michigan has seen us engaged in meaningful events across the community, sharing the importance of this vital mission. At the Donor Family Gathering, we joined families in honoring the legacy of loved ones who gave the gift of life. This heartfelt event was a powerful reminder of the hope and healing that donation provides. At the Uncharted Women's Conference, we connected with women from across Detroit, emphasizing how organ and tissue donation empowers families and strengthens communities. We also participated in the Assumptions Senior Expo, where we provided donation information and addressed questions from seniors about its impact at all stages of life. Finally, during Trunk or Treats in various Detroit neighborhoods, we combined festive fun with education, sharing the importance of becoming a donor with families in an engaging way.





From educational presentations to community health fairs, we've been making strides in raising awareness and support for organ and tissue donation. We invite you to reach out to us if you're interested in partnering or hosting a community event. Together, we can make a difference! Send us an email at contact@dmfdetroit.org.

Reconnect, Celebrate, and Share Wellness at Midnight Brunch



This Thanksgiving season, we are proud to partner with our Flint outreach for the annual Midnight Brunch, an R&B-inspired event happening the night before Thanksgiving. Tailored for young professionals and holiday visitors, Midnight Brunch creates a unique space to reconnect and celebrate in a setting that's refreshingly different from typical gatherings.

With an expected attendance of 500, this event is more than just a night of fun—it's also a vital opportunity to expand our reach and share the Detroit MOTTEP Foundation's message of health and wellness in multicultural communities. By engaging attendees in a lively and welcoming environment, we continue to promote the importance of health education and awareness, building connections that inspire lasting change.

MOTTEP EVENTS

15th Annual "Sounds of Saving Lives: Afternoon of Fine Arts"

This November, we hosted our 15th Annual Sounds of Saving Lives Concert: An Afternoon of Fine Arts at Hartford Memorial Baptist Church, and it was nothing short of extraordinary. With an audience of supporters, community leaders, and advocates, the concert was a moving celebration of life, art, and the transformative power of organ, eye, and tissue donation. This year, we had the privilege of being a part of Our Legacy's "Gift of Gospel" event, which was broadcast live across the country in 8 states.

Throughout the concert, audience members were inspired by the stories of individuals who have given or received the gift of life through donation. These stories served as a powerful reminder of the impact that our mission has on real lives every day.

For those who missed this incredible event, or for anyone who wants to relive the magic you can watch the full concert online by clicking [\[here\]](#).

The Detroit MOTTEP Foundation extends heartfelt thanks to all the performers, supporters, and attendees who made this year's concert an unforgettable success. Your passion and dedication help amplify our message of hope, awareness, and action. Together, we are saving lives and celebrating the beauty of second chances.

We look forward to seeing you all next year where the concert will serve as the culminating event for our 30th Anniversary Celebration.



ORGAN DONATION AND TRANSPLANTATION IN THE NEWS

Increasing the odds for organ transplant patients

NBC NEWS | Mayo Clinic

By making more organs available for donation and improving patient outcomes by sustaining the condition of donated organs, NMP will have a profound impact on the more than 100,000 Americans typically on organ transplant waitlists.



Today, a remarkable technological breakthrough is profoundly changing organ transplant. It's called normothermic machine perfusion (NMP), sometimes referred to as "liver in a box" or "heart in a box," and it has the potential to make more organs available for transplant.

Instead of flushing a donor liver or heart of liquids and cooling it in a cold preservation solution, which is the traditional method, the organ is perfused with warm, oxygen-infused blood via a system of pumps, which sustains the organ and its function in a life-like state. This enables the organ to remain viable for transplant for a longer period of time, and to be transported longer distances.

An organ donated after circulatory death can be optimized for transplant using new technology such as ex-vivo machine perfusion or with normothermic regional perfusion. Using these technologies



[MOTTEP MEN](#)

We are excited to continue our efforts with the MOTTEP Men Initiative, bringing more events and resources to support men's health in our community, especially focusing on Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD). Together, we can rewrite the narrative of kidney disease in the African-American community. Share your story or encourage someone you know to share theirs. Join us in our Take The Pledge to Better Health campaign. Let's make a difference!

Visit www.mottepmen.org for resources and information about CKD. Together, we can inspire men to take control of their health and lead stronger lives!

For more information on our Meet The Moment "MOTTEP Men" Initiative or to participate and learn how you can take the pledge visit us at: www.mottepmen.com

STATE OF MICHIGAN CURRENT WAITING LISTS

Over 103,000 individuals are waiting for organ transplants in the U.S. as of November 23, 2024, Including nearly 90,000 waiting for a kidney transplant.

In Michigan, over 2600 people are waiting for transplants, 2,196 for a kidney transplant, and nearly 1/3 are African American.

So far this year there have been over 470 transplants performed in the State of Michigan, including 51 living donor transplants. (Nationally >20,000 transplants including 2,900 living donor transplants)

	All Organs	Kidney	Liver	Pancreas	Kidney / Pancreas	Heart	Lung	Heart / Lung	Intestine
All Races/Ethnicities	2,642	2,196	189	21	27	128	78	1	2
White, Non-Hispanic	1,514	1,193	143	13	17	82	64	0	2
Black, Non-Hispanic	830	750	15	7	8	41	8	1	0
Hispanic/Latino	130	114	8	1	0	3	4	0	0
Unknown	26	9	16	0	0	0	1	0	0
Asian, Non-Hispanic	91	85	3	0	1	1	1	0	0
American Indian/Alaska Native, Non-Hispanic	12	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multiracial, Non-Hispanic	34	29	3	0	1	1	0	0	0

Data subject to change based on future data submission or correction. This report shows OPTN data for Organ by Race/Ethnicity through November 21, 2024. OPTN Data is updated on a monthly basis.

Did you know that one person can save up to 8 lives through organ donation? ☐ By signing up as an organ, eye, and tissue donor, you could be someone's second chance at life.

Join the life-saving mission today! Register to become a donor and help transform lives. It only takes a moment to make a difference that will

**Everyone Has The Power
To Save Lives**

2600+

People of All Races/Ethnicities on
the Michigan Transplant Waiting List



Waiting in Michigan for a
transplant are African American

Join
The Organ Donor Registry TODAY!



last a lifetime.

Sign up now: [click here](#)

2023: A RECORD YEAR



We honor life through donation.™



detroit **mottep**
FOUNDATION

One Gift...
INFINITE POSSIBILITIES

[Join the Organ Donor Registry TODAY!](#)

Let's keep going and finish 2024 even better!

Detroit Minority Organ Tissue Education Program (MOTTEP)

OUR MISSION

To decrease the number and rate of ethnic minority Americans needing organ and tissue transplants.

OUR MISSION

To be the trusted voice creating healthy communities through disease prevention, education, and organ donation awareness.

www.detroitmottepfoundation.org



Detroit MOTTEP Foundation | 736 Lothrop | Detroit, MI 48202 US

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