



Our Mission

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

Our Vision

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

Meeting the Moments by Educating and Empowering Multicultural Communities.

September 2024 | Detroit, MI

Greetings & Happy National Hispanic Heritage Month!

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



SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

From September 15 to October 15, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month, a time to celebrate the heritage, history, traditions, and cultural diversity of Hispanic Americans whose heritage is rooted in Spain and 19 countries and territories: Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic.

This heritage month is celebrated from mid-September to mid-October to highlight the independence of several countries. September 15 is the day that five Latin American countries celebrate their independence from Spain: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala, and Honduras. Mexico celebrates its independence on September 16 and

Chile on September 18. Also, Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples Day, or Día de la Raza, in mid-October, falls within this 30-day period.

The national observation began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting September 15 and ending October 15 of each year. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of [Public Law 100-402](#). Each year the President of the United States [issues a proclamation](#) at the start of the observance.

Each year, the NCHEPM leads the process of selecting the annual theme and corresponding poster that federal agencies will use when observing Hispanic Heritage Month.



Detroit MOTTEP Foundation

Board Member Spotlight

Board Member Spotlight: Rico Razo's Journey of Service and Leadership

This month, the Detroit MOTTEP Foundation is proud to shine a light on one of our newest dedicated board members, Rico Razo. Rico has been a very beneficial part of our board for just over a year, but his support for our mission spans the past five years. His passion for public service, community development, and uplifting Detroit residents is a natural fit for our efforts in promoting organ and tissue donation awareness, and Meeting The Moments of our communities.

With over 15 years of experience in public service, Rico currently serves as the City of Detroit's Chief of Home Repair & Neighborhood Services. In this role, he ensures that Detroit residents receive much-needed assistance in maintaining and improving their homes. Before stepping into this position, Rico led the City's Bridging Neighborhoods program, where he managed a \$32.6 million dollar housing relocation and environmental mitigation initiative for the Gordie Howe International Bridge project.

Rico's commitment to community service started early in his career. He spent several years as a Youth Development Professional in Southwest Detroit with SER Metro, where he mentored and trained thousands of young people, including high school students, dropouts, and individuals reentering society after incarceration. His influence extended beyond his professional work, as he volunteered his time during Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan's historic write-in campaign in 2013. Rico later served as the Mayoral appointed District 6 Manager, overseeing services for 107,000 residents.

Rico's talents also shined in the political arena. He directed Hillary Clinton's Detroit Coordinated Campaign in 2016 and played a pivotal role in Mayor Duggan's landslide re-election in 2017. Though he made a strong bid for State Representative in 2018, Rico's journey in public service didn't end there. Afterward, he rejoined the Mayor's administration as the Deputy Director of Bridging Neighborhoods.

A proud Southwest Detroit native and Wayne State University graduate, Rico continues to influence

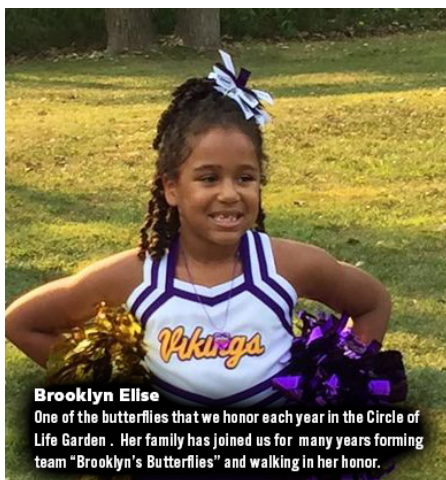


his community through his work and his involvement in several boards and advisory councils. He is known around the city as "Mr. No Days Off" for his relentless dedication to improving Detroit. Outside of work, Rico enjoys spending quality time with his wife and son, Eladio, and he also makes room for competitive sports.

We are incredibly fortunate to have someone of Rico's caliber on our board. His unwavering dedication to service, both professionally and personally, has made a profound impact on our community. Thank you, Rico, for your continued support and commitment to the Detroit MOTTEP Foundation's mission.

Volunteer Spotlight

Celebrating The Heart Of Our Community



Brooklyn Ellise
One of the butterflies that we honor each year in the Circle of Life Garden. Her family has joined us for many years forming team "Brooklyn's Butterflies" and walking in her honor.

Volunteer Spotlight: A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Circle of Life Garden Volunteers

This month in our Volunteer Spotlight, we extend our deepest gratitude to the incredible dedicated volunteers who transform our LIFE Walk/Run event campus each year creating the Circle of Life Garden into a truly inspiring and vital part of the event.

Every year, you arrive early with enthusiasm and care, ready to design and set up this beautiful and serene space. The Circle of Life Garden honors the extraordinary generosity of organ, tissue, and eye donors, providing a place of healing, gratitude, and

remembrance for families and friends.

Your hard work and creativity ensure that the garden is not just a physical space but a touching environment where the legacy of donors is celebrated. It serves as a reminder of the lives transformed through donation.

We are deeply appreciative of your unwavering support. Your efforts make the Circle of Life Garden an extraordinary part of our annual LIFE Walk/Run event. Thank you for your hard work, dedication, and the love you pour into this special project.

With heartfelt appreciation,
The Detroit MOTTEP Foundation



Team Brooklyn's Butterflies



Team Emilio



Team Mitchel "Miracle Child"

Fireside chat with DMF Board Chair Dr. Silas P. Norman and National MOTTEP Found Dr. Clive O. Callender

During National Minority Donor Awareness Month (NMDAM), the Detroit MOTTEP Foundation had the privilege of hosting a special conversation between board chair, Dr. Silas P. Norman, and National MOTTEP Founder, Dr. Clive O. Callender. These two pioneers discussed critical issues surrounding health and wellness in minority communities, highlighting the importance of organ donation and proactive health management. Their insights are vital as we continue our mission to improve lives and encourage minorities to join the organ donor registry. Watch this inspiring conversation and learn how we can all contribute to healthier futures!



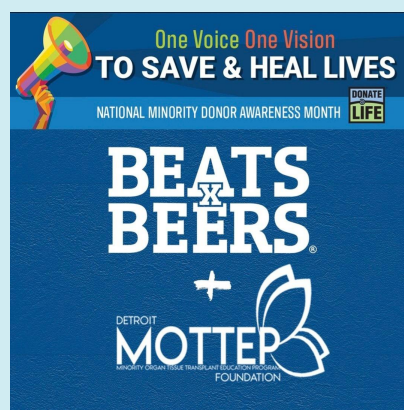
Awareness • Education • Empowerment
Empowering Minority Communities for Health, Wellness and Readiness

Medicaid Readiness Initiative: Expanding Our Reach

Our Medicaid Readiness Initiative continues to grow, as our community health workers have been working tirelessly to engage with the community every week. From health fairs and block parties to farmers markets and organizational open houses, we are meeting people where they are to provide crucial information about changes in the Michigan Medicaid system and healthcare coverage options.

In addition to these local efforts, we are excited about our reach in the Flint area through our exciting partnership with Beats X Beers in Flint. This collaboration has allowed us to extend our message across multiple social media platforms and community events. We are proud to announce our participation in the Flint Annual Beats X Beers Block Party on Saturday, September 28, 2024. This highly anticipated event draws thousands of participants, allowing us to further connect and share important information with the Flint community.

At the Detroit MOTTEP Foundation, we are committed to "Meeting The Moment" and empowering our communities with the knowledge and resources they need to make informed decisions about their health and healthcare.



**CHECK OUT OUR NEW
MEDICAID READINESS PSA**
Did you know Medicaid covers



more than you might think? From doctor visits to mental health services, Medicaid helps millions of Americans access essential healthcare. Learn about covered services. Understand the application process. Stay informed to keep your benefits. Take advantage of the care you need. Visit ["www.Michigan.com/MiBridges"](https://www.Michigan.com/MiBridges) to learn more about Medicaid coverage and how to maintain your eligibility.

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



[MOTTEP IN THE COMMUNITY](#)



We have had tremendous opportunities and partnerships in 2024 and it is our plan to continue to increase our footprint as we expand our activities in the community. We are committed to being the trusted voice creating healthy communities through disease prevention, education, and promoting organ and tissue donation awareness. With our ongoing Gift of Life Michigan partnership via Community Relations Coordinator Taneisha Carswell, over the past month we have done presentations with the American Red Cross, the City of Detroit, the City of Detroit Public Works, and Eastern Michigan Nursing School.

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**](mailto:contact@dmfdetroit.org).

[MOTTEP EVENTS](#)

SAVE THE DATE

We invite you to experience the **15th Annual "Sounds of Saving Lives: Afternoon of Fine Arts"**

On November 10, 2024, immerse yourself in an afternoon of captivating performances where music and dance meet the powerful message of organ, eye, and tissue donation.

Join us for an unforgettable afternoon of artistic expression and deep gratitude as we celebrate National Donor Sabbath and honor the selfless heroes who have given the gift of life through their donations.

Visit www.detroitmottepfoundation.org for more information.

SAVE THE DATE

The Detroit MOTTEP Foundation
Presents
An Afternoon Of
Fine Arts

Sunday, November 10, 2024
Hartford Memorial Baptist Church

Featuring
Detroit Windsor Dance Academy • Jazz Pianist Sequoia Snyder •
Smooth Jazz Vocalist Ashton Moore • GWT MIME Adonis Jamison •
Cass Technical High School Harp Ensemble • Nanami Haruta Jazz Combo
• Detroit School of the Arts Choir • Classical Pianist David Gregory •
Gospel Recording Artist Kevin Stewart Jr.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL DONOR SABBATH

www.detroitmottepfoundation.org 

ORGAN DONATION AND TRANSPLANTATION IN THE NEWS

First-of-its-Kind Programs Makes Organ Transplants More Accessible to Disadvantaged Black Americans. *From Feinberg School of Medicine [September 10, 2024]*



Dineen Simpson, MD, founding director of AATAP and chief health equity executive for the Northwestern Medicine health system.

Dineen C. Simpson, MD, is the founding director of AATAP and was the study's lead author. She is the chief health equity executive for the Northwestern Medicine health system and an associate professor of surgery in the Division of Organ Transplantation. She said few solutions had been introduced since racial inequities were identified.

"It turns out that many of the structural and institutional barriers that put this population at risk for disease development are the very same barriers that make it more challenging for them to access a life-saving transplant," Simpson said. "AATAP represents the first program of its kind in the country to focus on the needs of Black Americans in this unique way."

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)

MOTTEP MEN

We're excited to continue our work with the MOTTEP Men Initiative! With more events and resources coming soon, we're committed to supporting men's health in our community. Check out the "Take The Pledge" video

we've included in this article and share it with your friends and family, asking them to take the pledge. Together, we can inspire men to take control of their health!



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 waiting for organ transplants in the U.S. as of September 19, 2024, Including nearly 90,000 waiting for a kidney transplant.

In Michigan, over 2600 people are waiting for transplants, 2,179 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	2,623	2,179	198	23	27	124	68	1	3
White, Non-Hispanic	1,499	1,180	151	15	15	82	53	0	3
Black, Non-Hispanic	832	756	14	7	10	36	8	1	0
Hispanic/Latino	129	111	9	1	0	4	4	0	0
Unknown	25	9	15	0	0	0	1	0	0
Asian, Non-Hispanic	91	82	5	0	1	1	2	0	0
American Indian/Alaska Native, Non-Hispanic	13	12	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multiracial, Non-Hispanic	29	24	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 September 19, 2024. OPTN Data is updated on a monthly basis.

2023: A RECORD YEAR



We honor life through donation.™



One Gift...
INFINITE POSSIBILITIES

Join the Organ Donor Registry TODAY!

Let's keep going and make 2024 even better!



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

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