



Connecticut

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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Your generosity has allowed Donate Life Connecticut to continue its important mission. Thank you for your support and investment.



A Message from the Executive Director

Donate Life Connecticut (DLC) is dedicated to the purpose of education and awareness for all Connecticut residents regarding the lifesaving and life-enhancing benefits of organ and tissue donation. We are further dedicated to increasing the number of registered organ donors. At DLC, we are also champions of living donation. As a living kidney donor myself, this mission has an even deeper meaning to me personally. In 2019, I gifted my kidney to an 18-year old boy named Cameron in Brooklyn, New York. By giving to the National Kidney Registry in this way, I was given a voucher, which I gave to my friend, Peter, in my hometown of Bristol, CT. With the voucher, he was able to be placed at the top of the transplant list and receive the kidney he was waiting for. It is a great privilege and honor to be the Executive Director of DLC.

In 2022, after living in a global pandemic, we were hopeful as we began to gather again. The 32nd Annual Erica Grossman Visual Arts Contest was still held virtually in April, but we were able to gather in-person for the annual volunteer summit with New England Donor Services at the Connecticut Hospital Association in June. We began to speak to high school students, driving school students, and nursing students in person.

In the Summer of 2022, we created a video series, “Stories of Hope.” We interviewed Connecticut residents from all facets of transplant who graciously shared their stories. These stories are featured on our website and presented when we speak to high school and college students. In September, we held our first in-person fundraiser at the Wadsworth Mansion as an Autumn Garden Party. The event featured live gypsy jazz, farm to table food, and a live artist. A short film was created and featured at the event to honor our Connecticut transplant nurses. In October, a team of volunteers from DLC were at the starting line of the Hartford Marathon, cheering on runners from across the state.

This year was the beginning of a re-emergence, like Spring, when new growth sprouts from every corner. Connecting with the transplant community in person again, sharing stories, shedding tears, showing compassion for those who lost loved ones, encouraging those who continue to wait on the list, and thanking the transplant teams who work so hard, brought us back to the roots of what Donate Life Connecticut stands for.

On behalf of myself and the Board of Directors, it is our honor to fulfill the mission of Donate Life Connecticut. We provide education and increase awareness regarding organ and tissue donation for Connecticut residents, and ultimately, we increase the number of lives saved through the miracle of transplant.

With gratitude,

Lindsay Vigue
Executive Director



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Autumn Garden Party

Following two years of a global pandemic, the Donate Life Connecticut Board of Directors had many thoughtful conversations about our longstanding signature gala. The Dancing for Donations Gala had been a spirited, well-attended, successful event and the main source of fundraising supporting our mission for many years.

Bringing hundreds of people together to an inside venue was concerning, particularly as our community includes countless organ recipients, donors, and those on the waiting list. An indoor event no longer felt like the best fit for Donate Life Connecticut but creative planning led to the first annual Autumn Garden Party on October 20, 2022.

Held at the Wadsworth Mansion in Middletown, this wonderful event was held under an extended garden tent and allowed for a beautiful and safe evening of celebration and support. Featuring live gypsy jazz, small plates by local chefs, specialty cocktails, an artist in residence, a caricature artist, and a silent auction, the event honored transplant nurses from across the state for their dedication and commitment to organ transplantation. Please view the heart warming [video](#) that was shared that evening to honor this special group.

We look forward to our Second Annual Autumn Garden Party coming up on Thursday, September 7, 2023. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us.



With Sincere Gratitude to Our Sponsors

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National Donate Life Month & Virtual Art Contest Award Ceremony

National Donate Life Month is celebrated every April within the Donate Life community. Each year, Donate Life Connecticut holds the Annual Erica Grossman Art Contest at this time to educate high school students regarding the live-saving benefits of organ donation. We received so many beautiful submissions from talented high school artists. The Art Contest Award Ceremony was held virtually as we remained in endemic stages.

1ST PLACE WINNER
MADELYN J.



2ND PLACE WINNER
JIMIN L.



3RD PLACE WINNER
SARA B.



TONY AWARD WINNER
ALYSON G.



Hartford Marathon



The annual Hartford Marathon was back in-person in October of 2022 and Donate Life Connecticut was once again an official charity of the event. Runners and walkers could choose to run a full or half marathon, or a 10K or 5K race. Donate Life Connecticut had a great team that participated and raced money to support organ donation education and awareness.

Volunteer Summit

We were so pleased to hold our annual Volunteer Summit in partnership with New England Donor Services in June 2022 at the Connecticut Hospital Association. This important event recognizes and celebrates our many volunteers and offers an opportunity for additional volunteer training.



Gifts of Philanthropy

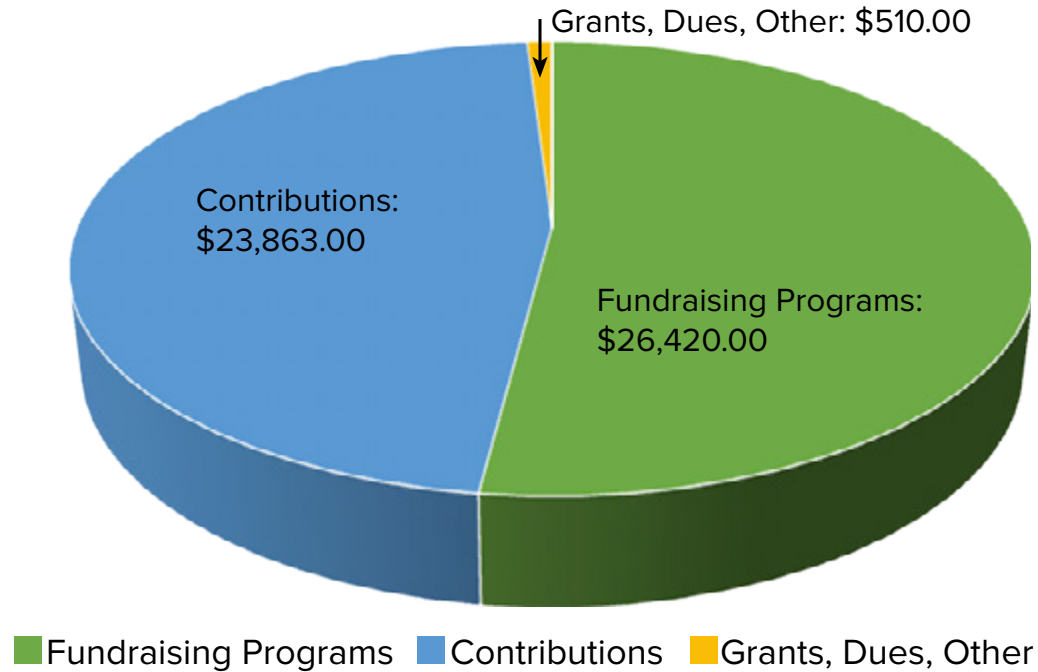
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|----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Adams, Megan | Fenton, Jillian | Perlitz, Kathleen |
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| America's Charities | Fleming, Jennifer | Rancourt, Kari |
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| Fellows, Linda | Parker, Lori | |

1 ORGAN DONOR CAN SAVE UP TO 8 LIVES.

Register today at [DonateLifeCT.org](https://www.DonateLifeCT.org)

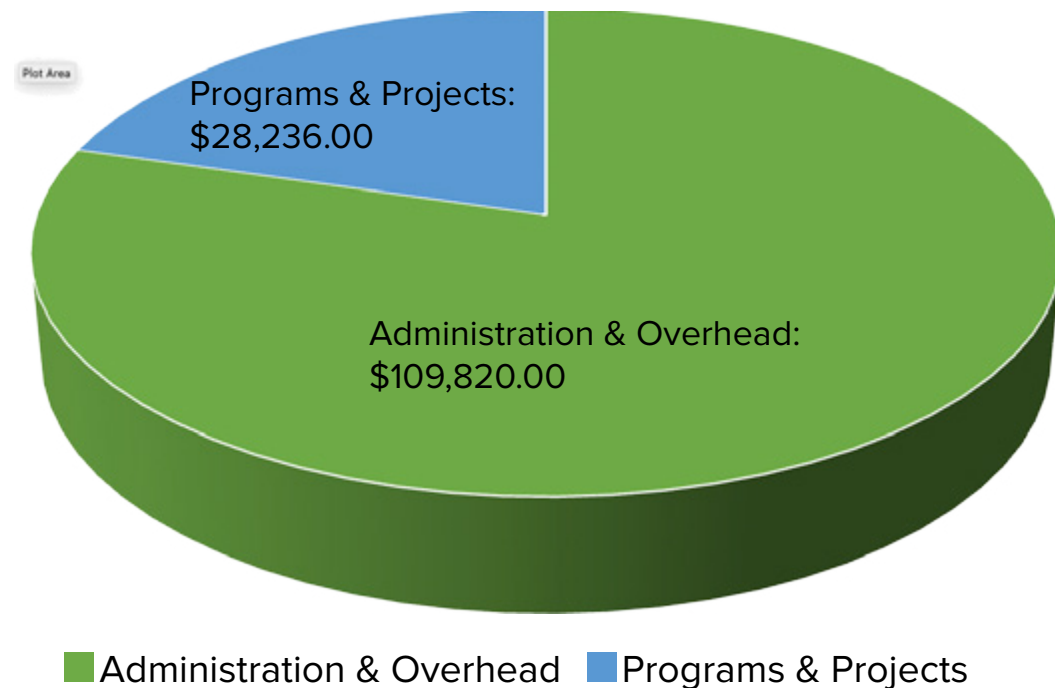
Financial Report 2022 (unaudited)

Revenue 2022



2022 Total Revenue: \$50,793

Expenses 2022



2022 Total Expenses: \$138,056

Stories of Hope Video Project

In August of 2022, fourteen of our volunteers who are organ recipients, organ donors, or donor families, came out to share their personal donation stories through our first formal video project. These genuine stories of a second chance at life and of the opportunity to save a life are what Donate Life Connecticut is all about. We are so grateful to each of these remarkable people for their willingness to share their stories and make a difference. View each of their stories [here on our website](#).



Digital Media and Donor Progress

Donate Life Connecticut has embarked on a strong digital marketing campaign to increase awareness of deceased and living organ donation and ultimately increase the number of registered donors. This has also led to an increase in our social media followers:

2,400 Facebook Followers

1,283 Newsletter Subscribers

1,231 Instagram Followers

968 Twitter Followers

Despite the challenges we continued to face in 2021 - 2022, we are proud to say that organ donation registration continues to increase. The number of registered organ donors in Connecticut has grown as follows at the conclusion of 2022:

1,916,756 Registered Organ Donors

An Increase of 608,607 over 2020 (our last report)

Thank you.

Each monetary gift and each hour from our volunteers makes a difference in the support of our mission to register donors and save lives. On behalf of the Donate Life Connecticut staff and Board of Directors, we thank you for your generosity and support.



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