



Gift of Life



Mid-South Transplant Foundation, Inc.

Fall 2023

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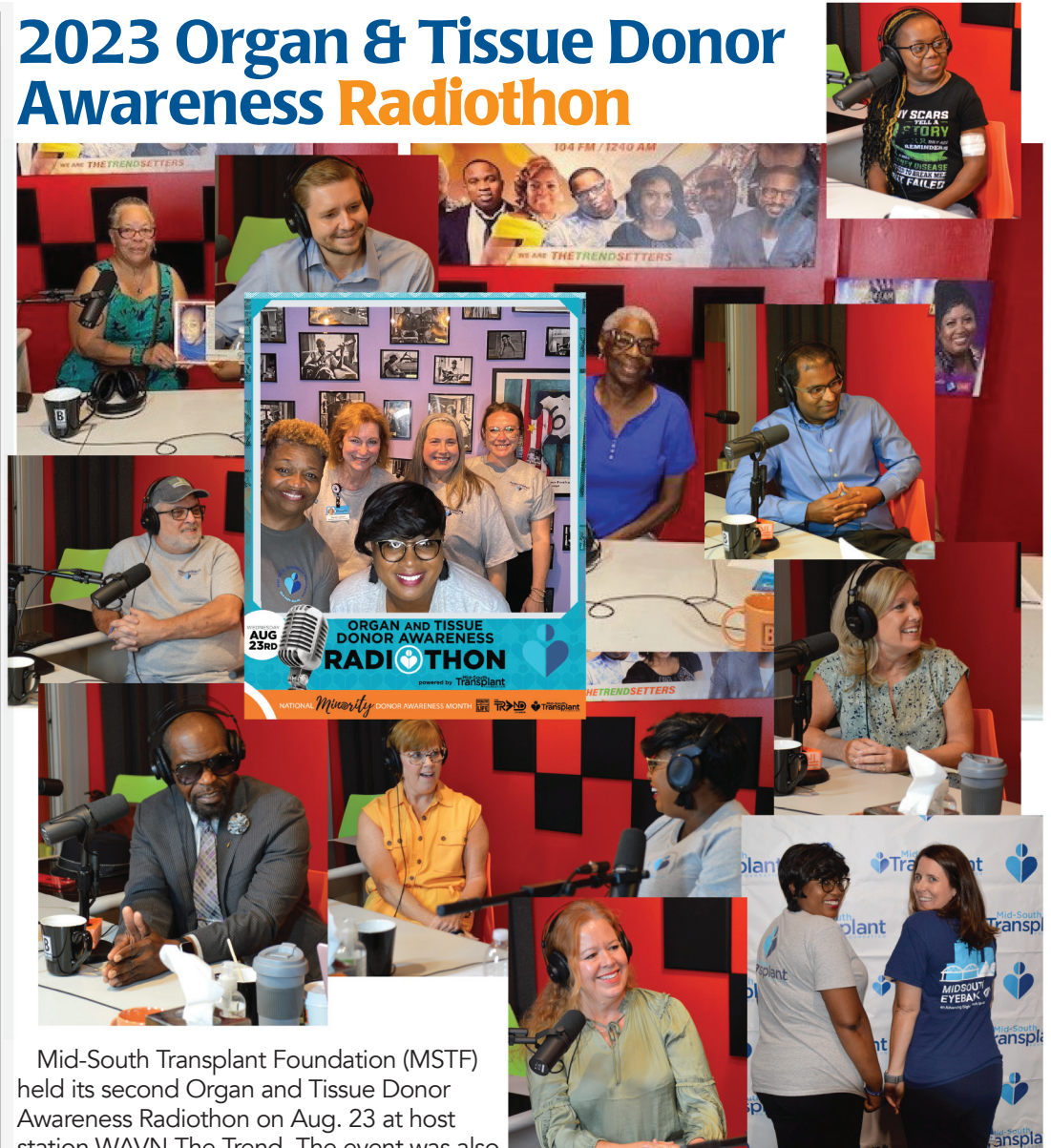
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2023 Organ & Tissue Donor Awareness Radiothon



Mid-South Transplant Foundation (MSTF) held its second Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Radiothon on Aug. 23 at host station WAVN The Trend. The event was also livestreamed on the MSTF Facebook page. The radiothon was part of National Minority Donor Awareness Month and featured the personal stories and experiences of individuals across the transplant community, including recipients, donor family members, those on the waiting list, transplant surgeons and others in the medical field.

"The radiothon offers us an opportunity to share stories with our community in a way that is personal and powerful," said Mary Beck, MSTF Community Relations Coordinator and one of the event's key organizers. "We hope

those who have not yet made the decision to be a registered donor will now better understand the difference they can make – the difference one person can make – and say yes to donation."

Currently, more than 100,000 people are waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant. About 4,000 of those waiting are here in the Mid-South – Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee.

Interviews with radiothon participants can be found on the MSTF Facebook page, www.facebook.com/MidSouthTransplant/.



MSTF Welcomes New Recipient Wall

MSTF celebrated its new recipient wall on June 28. The wall includes 13 portraits, many of which feature MSTF Ambassadors. Local photographer Alex Ginsburg created the inspirational photographs.

The celebration included a reception honoring the portrait subjects and their families. TV station ABC 24 in Memphis covered the event. Use the link below to see the news story.

If you would like to view the wall, please stop by the MSTF office in Cordova Monday-Friday between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.



[Click here to see ABC 24 coverage.](#)

MSTF Awarded Walmart Grants

MSTF received two grants through the Cordova and Covington, TN, Walmart stores. Each store awarded MSTF \$1,500. The grants are part of the Walmart Foundation Local Community Grants Program. MSTF was selected as a grant recipient based on its work in the communities served by the two stores.

Ambassador Richard Edmondson learned about the grant program for nonprofit organizations. He then approached the stores about MSTF and encouraged MSTF to apply.

“We want to thank Walmart in Cordova and Covington and Richard Edmondson,” said Kim Van Frank, MSTF Executive Director. “We are so pleased to receive these grants and honored to be recognized by our local Walmart stores.”

Stories of Hope Podcast Launched

STORIES OF HOPE
PODCAST
with ARTavius Veasey

AVAILABLE NOW
to stream on podcast platforms.

Search: *MidSouth Transplant*

The *Stories of Hope* podcast was launched in July. This is MSTF's first podcast series. You can listen to it now [by clicking here to go to the MSTF podcast page](#), or you can stream the series on YouTube, Apple Podcast, Spotify, Amazon Music, Google Podcast, Audible and iHeart Radio.

Episodes feature MSTF Ambassadors and others in the transplant community. New episodes drop every other week. Join host ARTavius Veasey, MSTF Digital Communications Coordinator and kidney recipient, as he shares *Stories of Hope*.



The Cordova Walmart Pharmacy and Vision Center selected MSTF as its health and wellness grant recipient. Adam Franks, Vision Center Manager, and Sharon Perdue, Pharmacy Manager, are pictured with (left to right) MSTF's Kim Van Frank, Randa Lipman, Melody Ramsey, Telisa Franklin and ARTavius Veasey.

Partner Insights Important to Planning

MSTF is working with Stratex Solutions, an expert in stakeholder engagement and strategic planning, to gather and analyze insights from community partners that will help guide MSTF into the future. MSTF surveyed several key partner groups, including MSTF staff; Ambassadors; donor families; department of motor vehicle, county clerk and highway patrol office employees; medical examiners; coroners; funeral home staff; physicians; nurses; other patient care personnel; donor hospital personnel; and transplant center employees in the MSTF tristate service area.

“Mid-South Transplant Foundation values its partners and wants them to know their opinions and insights matter,” said Executive Director Kim Van Frank. “MSTF began working with Stratex Solutions in late summer to help facilitate the anonymous survey. Everyone’s participation was greatly appreciated, and the feedback received will be critical as MSTF plans for the future. MSTF is committed to continuous improvement and wants to thank all its partners for their continued support.”

WE NEED YOUR HELP!
Your Opinion Matters.

1 2 3 4 5

NOT AT ALL SATISFIED SLIGHTLY SATISFIED NEUTRAL VERY SATISFIED EXTREMELY SATISFIED

Mid-South Transplant Foundation is conducting a survey with a third-party provider to gather feedback from key partners like you. This survey should take approximately 10 minutes.

*Your survey responses will be anonymous. You can choose to share your email for a chance to win one of twenty \$100 gift cards. Sharing your email will not reveal the results of your survey. Thank you in advance for taking the time to help us be the best we can be. Your opinion matters.

SURVEY CLOSES SEPTEMBER 8TH



MSTF Recognized at 2023 AOPO Annual Meeting

MSTF was recognized at the 2023 AOPO (Association of Organ Procurement Organizations) Annual Meeting in June in Orlando, FL, for its Huddle Scoring Template. The template, submitted by Mary Alan Husske, Quality Systems Coordinator, was selected as part of AOPO's poster display section.

MSTF established its huddle process to ensure that those involved in an organ referral/donor case are kept informed and understand the necessity of their participation; to discuss ideas and plans; and to exchange feedback and ask questions at different points throughout a case. The process is an industry best practice that was formally adopted by MSTF in 2021.

The Huddle Scoring Template was created in 2022 to quantify and analyze the effectiveness of communication between MSTF and hospital staff during these huddles. The template also assists in identifying opportunities for improvement by determining gaps in the current huddle process.

"AOPO received nearly 100 abstracts for consideration," Husske said. "Only a couple dozen



MSTF attendees, left to right, were Dr. Jennifer McNary-McIvain, Director, Quality Systems and Compliance; Mary Alan Husske, Quality Systems Coordinator; Wanda Peperone, Director, Clinical Operations – Organ; and Kim Van Frank, Executive Director.

were selected, so we were very proud to have been one of them. We were also excited to have the opportunity to share our practice with other OPOs with hopes that others could implement something similar to drive performance improvement."

MSTF Honors National Donor Sabbath with Dance



National Donor Sabbath (NDS) is an interfaith celebration of life and a time for congregations across the country to learn about organ and tissue donation. It is traditionally observed in November. In honor of NDS this year, MSTF's Multicultural Relations Coordinator, Telisa Franklin, through her Telisa Franklin Ministries organization, has partnered with MSTF to organize "Let's Dance – a Liturgical Celebration." The event, which focuses on the art of expression, will take place Nov. 4 at Pursuit of God Church on North Watkins in Memphis.

Please visit <https://form.jotform.com/232355256829160> for more information; to register your place of worship's dance team; or to request that a donor family or recipient be honored at the event. There is no cost to participate or attend.



Celebrating 30 Years

Brett Loehmann, Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics Laboratory (HLA) Manager, pictured with Executive Director Kim Van Frank, celebrated 30 years in the lab at MSTF on Aug. 18. The milestone was recognized with a breakfast in his honor.



A Donate Life
Organization



Congratulations



Mary Beck, MSTF Community Relations Coordinator, received a Certification in Healthcare Change Management from the Tennessee Medical Association's 2023 John Ingram Institute of Physician Leadership. During the six-month program, Beck created an online donation curriculum for high school students and educators, as well as a system to track and graph donor registration trends pre- and post-curriculum.

Blue & Green Day Mid-South 2024

Mark your calendars. Blue & Green Day Mid-South 2024 is April 12. Please start thinking about ways you can participate. Each year, Blue & Green Day Mid-South has expanded. The 2024 event will be no exception.



On the Move

Mary Alan Husske now serves as Quality Systems Coordinator. She formerly served as Data/Performance Improvement Coordinator. Chazeree Jones now serves as Data/Performance Improvement Coordinator. She formerly served as Quality Assurance Coordinator.



Mary Alan Husske



Chazeree Jones



Angela Feild



Britta Valdez

Spotlight

Angela Feild, Family Care – Tissue, and Britta Valdez, Family Care – Organ, have received MSTF Hope and Life Recognition Awards for their exceptional work with donor families during the second quarter of 2023. Congratulations.