

Project endorsed by



**UNITED BY  
BIRMINGHAM  
2022**



**Blood and Transplant**

# Commonwealth Tribute to Life

## Working together to save and transform lives across the Commonwealth

NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) are proud to launch a new international project, the Commonwealth Tribute to Life, bringing together Commonwealth nations to build support and share expertise in organ donation and transplantation, ultimately saving more lives.

It's estimated that over 146,000 people received a life saving transplant across the World in 2018, yet organ failure and the need for transplantation remains high in all nations.

Using the historical ties and established relationships of our Commonwealth Citizens and governments, we believe more can be done through Commonwealth nations working together to share knowledge and expertise. We've invited all Commonwealth nations to join this humanitarian effort to help save and improve more lives via an agreed framework for collaboration, known as a Memorandum of Understanding.

We hope to have gained support for this Memorandum of Understanding from all Commonwealth nations by the time of the Commonwealth Games taking place in July.

To find out more about the Tribute to Life project, please visit [www.nhsbt.nhs.uk/commonwealth](http://www.nhsbt.nhs.uk/commonwealth)

As an official legacy project of Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games and part of the 'United By Birmingham 2022' community programme, Tribute to Life presents a unique opportunity here in the UK to highlight the ongoing need to increase levels of organ and tissue donation and transplantation and create a legacy for donation in Birmingham and across the country.

Many citizens in the UK have strong cultural ties to other Commonwealth nations. If we can normalise the culture of donation across the Commonwealth, we can help to save and improve more lives in the UK.

Organ donation is the gift of life for many patients in need. Through the selflessness of organ donors and their families, and the generosity of living donors, each year thousands of lives are saved or transformed.

However, around 7,000 patients in the UK alone are waiting for a transplant and people from a Black and Asian background still wait too long for a transplant because of a lack of suitable organs.

We want to celebrate the incredible and inspiring stories of our donors, their families and those whose lives have been saved or transformed through donation, to encourage people across the UK to make their decision about organ donation, share it with *their* family and record it on the NHS Organ Donor [Register](#).

As part of this project, we also want to improve engagement within Black, Asian, Mixed Race and Minority Ethnic communities, help to address the health inequalities that exist in donation and transplantation and to address concerns about organ donation to increase peoples' willingness to be a donor.



## Our ambition:

Through the Tribute To Life project we want to work with you to create a sustaining legacy for organ donation and transplantation.

We would be really grateful if you could help us by:

- Following our social media channels @NHSOrganDonor and sharing our posts with your followers
- Sharing your activity with us by tagging our social media channels in your posts
- Sharing our media releases with your audiences, on your website, via newsletters
- Find and share supporting resources including graphics and animations on our website [www.nhsbt.nhs.uk/commonwealth](http://www.nhsbt.nhs.uk/commonwealth)

To return your support for us, we want to highlight and recognise all the incredible work undertaken by you – our partners, stakeholders and ambassadors that share our vision and mission to save and improve more lives. We want to turn the spotlight on you!

We'd love to hear from you if you or your organisation has links to the Commonwealth or to sport to discuss how we can amplify the work you do.

Visit our [Get Involved](#) hub to download the Commonwealth Tribute To Life assets

