



Outreach Update: Indian Creek

Find an unmet need in your community and fill it.

That's advice Indian Creek CoB was given last year by consultants working with us to improve our effectiveness. We found that need and it is not just in our community, it is a worldwide need and we are doing something about it. Thousands of people are having their life devastated by illness and dying waiting for an organ that often never comes. The organs are plentiful; unfortunately they are not being made available because of fear, misinformation and a lack of understanding that every one of us has the power to change someone's life.

The **O**rgan **D**onor **A**wareness Team (ODA) is an initiative of the Indian Creek CoB, but it is not just our mission. This is an initiative inspired and guided by God; his hands have been overtly on us throughout the process. As Christians we are called to love one another and to serve one another – this is a significant opportunity to do just that! Every one of us can significantly improve, if not save the lives of others. One donor can help more than 70 people – a powerful responsibility we all share.

Our ODA Team is setting up a program to raise the level of awareness related to organ donation in our area. Our mission is not to get you to donate an organ but rather to make you aware of the many advances in organ donation, both living and post mortem. Organ donation is a very personal choice and it is not for us to “talk you into donating”. We feel that by equipping you with the facts about organ donation you will be better equipped to make a personal decision and to share this information among your sphere of influence. The more people we / you “touch” with the ODA message, the better the chances of finding donors. It would be a wonderful gift if among the donors we find a kidney for one of our own, [Shelby Winder](#). There are thousands of others on the lists for all types of organs, tissue and skeletal donations. Surprisingly you are never too old to be a donor!

We cannot do this alone. Fortunately there are many organizations to help. We are working with the Gift of Life Donor Program, Jefferson Hospital, Lehigh Hospital and the Kidney Foundation. We



are preparing ourselves to be Organ Donor Awareness Ambassadors. While we are preparing ourselves and our congregation to advocate for organ donation, we are building a repeatable process that we hope will make a good starting point for other congregations in the faith community to start their own ministry. As our first Ambassadors come online we will be recruiting the next group, train them and keep repeating the process. We will begin reaching out to area congregations to help them create their own ODA Teams. We are hoping to share this opportunity with congregations within ANE and hope to grow it to be a denominational ministry.

Anytime is the right time to learn about donation – Our website has a page dedicated to ODA: <https://www.iccob.org/> This page is an information aggregator, concentrating information we have found useful. Please visit it and reach out to us via the “contact” link or you can contact us directly at: iccoborgans@gmail.com.

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PLEASE – jump onboard, we need everyone excited, engaged and involved with this effort!

~Bob Lane, Indian Creek CoB