

*Someone's **life** depends on **YOU**.*

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## **The role of Virginia Blood Services in organ transplants**

Few medical procedures are more dramatic than organ transplants. In most cases, someone must die to make them possible. But healthy, living blood donors play a major role in organ transplants, too. Nearly all patients receiving new organs need blood transfusions.

Virginia Blood Services has provided the blood for 63 percent of Virginia's organ transplants, including 247 at the University of Virginia Medical Center, 159 at the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals, 45 at Henrico Doctors' Hospital and 10 at the McGuire Veterans Affairs Medical Center. For patients needing a new heart, lung, kidney, liver, lung or pancreas, finding an organ is the first step, but the right type of blood must be available for their surgeries, too.

During a recent summer in one southern city, three patients awaiting organs had to go without them because there was not enough blood ready and available to support their surgeries.

**Help Virginia Blood Services provide  
the lifesaving blood for organ transplants!**

