

Children's Organ Transplant Association®

The Trusted Leader Supporting Families ... For a Lifetime

LETTER TO THE EDITOR APRIL IS NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH

March 2019

Dear Editor:

The Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) was founded in April 1986 when residents of Bloomington, Indiana, rallied around a toddler who needed a life-saving liver transplant. In only a few weeks, the community raised \$100,000 to place the boy on the organ waiting list. But the child died before an organ was found. Those community volunteers, along with his parents, turned tragedy into triumph by using the funds they raised to help other transplant families. That was the beginning of COTA, and those volunteers were our first Miracle Makers.

With the help of the men and women of The American Legion Family, COTA has assisted thousands of children and young adults by helping to raise funds for a lifetime of transplant-related expenses. Extensive volunteer networks across the nation are working to ensure that no child or young adult needing an organ or tissue transplant is excluded from a transplant waiting list due to lack of funds.

Sadly, 20 people in the United States die each day waiting for an organ transplant. One American dies nearly every hour waiting for a transplant. One organ donor can save eight lives. April is National Donate Life Month and COTA is asking everyone within The American Legion Family to go to www.RegisterMe.org and register to be a designated organ and/or tissue donor.

You can become a COTA Miracle Maker. Find out how your Post, Unit, Squadron or Legion Riders can help a COTA transplant family near you by visiting COTA.org and clicking on Find a COTA Family link at the top of the page.

Thank you,

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The Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) is a national charity dedicated to guiding communities in raising funds for transplant-related expenses. COTA's priority is to assure that no child or young adult is denied a transplant or excluded from a waiting list due to lack of funds. 100% of all funds raised in honor of patients assist with transplant-related expenses for a patient's lifetime.

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