Most people know very little about living kidney donation and the impact living donors have on saving lives. The campaign urging everyone to register with their State Department of Motor Vehicles has been very successful – but this leaves out the vital opportunity to elect to donate a kidney in one’s lifetime.

Most living kidney donors donate to a family member or friend – donating has a powerful transformative impact on the recipient and the donor. With over 100,000 people in the U.S. waiting desperately for a kidney, there’s a growing trend of people who elect to donate a kidney without knowing someone in need. The wait for a deceased donor kidney is 5-10 years and over 4,500 of those waiting die each year before they can receive that life saving kidney transplant.

These donors are referred to as non-directed donors. (NDD) Medical technology and kidney-paired donations, also called paired exchanges, swaps or chains, results in a NDD being able to save the life of not just one person but many. On average, one NDD results in 5 lives being saved. These transplants are called domino-paired exchanges or ongoing-paired exchanges. This link will provide you with more information about these types of kidney transplants. www.LKDN.org/NDD

Donating a kidney is not for everyone - It involves all the inherent risks of any major surgery. In spite of this - donors say this is a small price to pay for the satisfaction of having saved lives.

To learn more about non-directed donation contact Harvey Mysel at: harvey@LKDN.org.

Living Kidney Donors Network: a Nonprofit 501(c)3 Organization. Phone 312-473-3772 info@LKDN.org www.LKDN.org www.facebook.com/LivingKidneyDonorsNetwork

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