



Roadmap to the Future

It is a privilege to work with a wonderful group of dedicated members that make up the DFA Board. It is timely to look back from where we started our humble beginnings to where we are aiming to ensure that Donor Families views are heard and are taken into consideration within the Organ and Tissue Donation System.

The launch of Donor Families Australia in 2013 provided a wonderful opportunity for Donor Families to improve community acceptance of organ and tissue donation and the care of families who make organ and tissue donation decisions. The generosity of donors and their loved ones transforms the lives of others, both at the time of the donation decision and long afterwards, because donor families are the best advocates or organ and tissue donation.

Many health care professionals have been fortunate to have witnessed the courage and kindness of families who have made donation decisions at times of great sorrow. The members of Donor Families Australia continue to provide energetic inspiration, advocacy, guidance, compassion and care to ensure Australians receive the information and support they require to make donation decisions they never regret.

Many in our community are confused about the process of organ and tissue donation. DFA provides opportunities for discussion, education and collaboration about a range of matters that impact on Australian donation practices including the need to properly care for and acknowledge live donors, tissue donors and their families as well as organ donor families. The gift of donation is truly extraordinary and builds our humanity.

If Australia is to achieve equivalence with international leading practice it is important to make organ and tissue donation normal. A conversation about donation should be a part of expert end of life care for every Australian. Understanding the donation process and knowing loved ones' wishes are just so important to helping to save lives and providing meaning from what are often tragic circumstances of unexpected death. This is, because most people wish to help others and to honour the wish to donate. Despite this, many families never have the opportunity to have those wishes properly considered because either donation isn't mentioned, or the person conducting the conversation at the time of death lacks the knowledge and skill to properly support the family making those decisions. Donor Families Australia helps to identify and fill these gaps.

In 2016 the DFA Board met and formulated our Strategic Roadmap and Plan for our future direction.

Dr Holly Northam, Faculty of Health, University of Canberra

2018

Donor - recipiere meeting policy in place Legislative alignment to enableUTA to support and facilitate donor recipient meetings Hospital volunteer danar families Embedded in teams

DFA representation in ail committees that guide organ and tissue donation gractice and in all education to health professionas

organ and tissue donation expert practice All donor families offered access to DFA

DFA soon as pillar for

National 24 hour hot line for denor family and recipient support Danor family Charter accepted by all professional groups responsible for organ

and tissue donation

2019

in organ donation rates and practice DFA fully assimilated into OTA and Donatelife as key consumer organisation for translation of best evidence for donation

Australia leading world

DFA fully funded with appropriate muselling support staff and OFA trained media contacts and health professiona's.

lete practice.

2020

Satisfied patients, families, community and regulators. Ongoing robust, transparent and responsive quality and safety frameworks supporting and respecting these vulnerable populations.

Authentic representation in national and local governance and practice consultation. Herd for Life

2016

Representation/ indusion in consultation regarding on new Board appointments

Donor Family Charter

2017

Commitment by OTA to facilitiate a comprehensive review of donor family communication and donor-recipient meetings.

DFA involvement in

Secure funding for DFA as a charitable organisation

DFA contact details provided to all donor families at the time of donation

Independent Compaints process listed on Donatelife Website