

BloodCenter of Wisconsin and RTI Donor Services Partner to Advance Tissue Donation in Wisconsin

As part of a shared commitment to maximizing the gift of tissue donation and treating more patients in Wisconsin, BloodCenter of Wisconsin's Donor Network and Tissue Bank (BCW) and RTI Donor Services (RTIDS) are expanding their strategic relationship, effective September 1, 2018. BCW will manage all aspects of tissue recovery services for Wisconsin partners in RTIDS' former service area and RTIDS will focus specifically on acquiring tissue for processing and distribution.

The relationship simplifies the tissue donation process and elevates the level of service for everyone, from donor family to patient recipient. BCW will serve more facilities, gain efficiencies and develop more programs and a deeper level of service benefiting medical examiners, coroners and donor families. RTI Surgical (the global surgical implant company affiliated with RTIDS) is transforming its approach to tissue acquisition to align more directly with the needs of patients, and RTIDS will transition from partially managing tissue recovery to wholly relying on its trusted organ procurement organization partners to recover transplantable tissue.

We're confident that this relationship will simplify the process for you and your staff. We are working diligently to ensure the transition is as seamless as possible and invite you to contact us with questions at any time.

Resources

- Your dedicated donor development specialist will remain the same. Please continue to reach out to them with any questions or needs you may have.
- For referrals, please call BCW's Medical Examiner and Coroner referral line 1-888-278-0556. BCW's experienced tissue screening coordinators will support you and potential donor families 24/7.

As always, we value your ongoing support to advance our mission of saving and healing lives through transplantation.



"It helps to know that my son Michael's death was not in vain. Through organ and tissue donation, he will live on through others."

— Colette, donor mom

CONTACTS

Al Klimek, Medical Examiner/Coroner Outreach Coordinator | 920-621-4572

Rebecca Quall, Manager of Tissue Services, BCW | Rebecca.Quall@bcw.edu | 414-937-3911

Beverly Bliss, Director, RTI Donor Services | bbliss@rtids.org | 386-418-8888

ABOUT THE PARTNERS

BloodCenter of Wisconsin (BCW), part of Versiti, is a not-for-profit organization headquartered in Milwaukee, Wis., that specializes in blood services, esoteric diagnostic testing, organ, tissue, eye and stem cell donation, medical services and leading-edge research. BCW advances patient care by delivering life-saving solutions grounded in unparalleled medical and scientific expertise.

RTI Donor Services, Inc. (RTI Donor Services) is a nonprofit tissue acquisition agency working in collaboration with the donation community and healthcare facilities in perpetuating the gift of tissue donation. RTI Donor Services is accredited by the American Association of Tissue Banks and affiliated with RTI Surgical, Inc. (RTI Surgical), a global surgical implant company providing surgeons with safe biologic, metal and synthetic implants.

