



TALKING WITH LOVED ONES

- **Start early** and explain why donation matters to you.
- **Expect questions** — share trusted information.
- **Include faith leaders** if spiritual guidance is important.
- **Reassure your family:** the process is ethical, respectful, and safe.



Talking to your family and loved ones will make them feel more comfortable when the times comes.

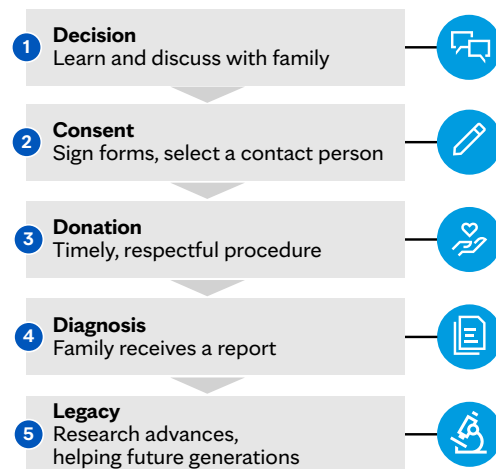
FAITH & TRUST

- Most major religions (Christianity, Islam, Judaism, and others) support brain donation as an act of compassion.
- Strict laws protect your **rights, dignity, and medical care.**



It helps families receive support throughout the process and to ensure that loved ones understand the value and impact of brain donation.

Your Journey as a Brain Donor



FIND BRAIN DONATION COORDINATORS AND MORE

Mayo Clinic Alzheimer's Disease Research Center
flamayoadrc@mayo.edu
 (904) 953-6523



Alzheimer's Association Brain Donation Info
alz.org/BrainDonationPage



STATE OF FLORIDA BRAIN BANK PROGRAMS

Orlando/ Jacksonville - Alzheimer's & Dementia Resource Center
info@adrccares.org | (407) 436-7750
barbara@ADRCcares.org | (407) 964-5234



Miami - Mount Sinai Wien Center for Alzheimer's Disease & Memory Disorders
Josalen.GondrezVentura@msmc.com
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Your Brain Can Unlock the Cure: A Gift for Future Generations





WHY DONATE YOUR BRAIN?

- Leave a **legacy** for future generations.
- **Honor a loved one** affected by Alzheimer's or dementia.
- **Confirm diagnosis** and learn about family health.
- **Contribute to science** and medical progress.
- Support your **community's health**, especially underserved groups.



Despite recent remarkable advances in blood tests, the **autopsy report is still the only way to confirm a diagnosis**. Your brain donation helps advance Alzheimer's and dementia research, supports earlier diagnosis, better care, and new treatments.

WHO CAN DONATE?

- **Anyone 18 or older** can become a donor.
- **Healthy** brains are just as valuable as those affected by disease.
- **Any** type of dementia or similar affecting memory, movement, or behavior.



There is no cost to you or your family.

Transportation and all procedures are respectfully arranged and fully covered.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING DONATION?

- A respectful procedure removes the brain **through the back of the head**.
- **No delay or disfigurement** — open casket funerals are possible.
- The brain is examined for diagnosis, and a **summary is sent to the authorized next-of-kin**.



Brain samples are **anonymous** when shared with researchers to protect the donor's privacy.

WHAT IMPACT DO DONATIONS HAVE?

- Developing **new treatments** that target harmful brain proteins.
- Discovering **different forms of Alzheimer's disease**.
- Understanding the **causes** of memory loss and dementia.
- Improving **early detection tools** so doctors can act sooner.



These breakthroughs would not be possible without brain donors like you. Donations from **underrepresented communities** (African American, Latino, and others) are especially important to reduce health disparities.

ORGAN DONATION VS. BRAIN DONATION

- **Not on driver's license** — Brain donation needs a separate enrollment with a consent form and contact person.
- **Different purpose** — Organ donation saves lives through transplants, brain donation advances dementia research and future care.



Planning ahead by completing the paperwork in advance helps make the process easier and smoother for you and your loved ones.

HOW TO ENROLL

3 Easy Steps:

- 1 **Contact** a brain donation coordinator
- 2 **Sign a consent form** and return it to the coordinator
- 3 **Share your decision** with family and loved ones



You can change your mind anytime. When a person with dementia is no longer able to make informed decisions, their loved ones may provide consent for your brain donation. **Having a signed consent helps your family and the process.**



Brain donation is a powerful gift — for families, communities, and future generations.