
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aster Health celebrates Donate Life

WADENA, Minn. – April. 04, 2023 – A small crowd gathered in the commons of the new Aster Health Campus to celebrate the first Donate Life flag-raising since the completion of the new facility. Guest braved an impending snowstorm to be in attendance for an event that draws attention to a much need resource, organ donation.

This year organizers welcomed John Hart as the main speaker. Hart received a heart transplant in Oct. 2022. Several years ago, Hart experienced sudden onset heart failure. After passing out, he woke up in a Minneapolis hospital. Surgeons add a ventricle pump known as an LVAD. This device helped his heart function normally for about five years until an alert system notified him of an electrical malfunction with the pump. He was quickly added to the transplant list and would soon receive a new heart.

“It’s unbelievable to me that I wouldn’t be here for my daughter,” said Hart.

Hart and staff organizers strongly encouraged attendees to consider organ donation. They requested that today be about educating others on the importance of organ donation.

At the end of the ceremony, guests raised the Donate Life flag. Donate Life is a nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing the number of organ donors. April has been designated as National Donate Life Month with healthcare facilities around the nation participating in a flag raising ceremony like the one organized by Aster Health.

For more information about events, please visit asterahealth.org.

ABOUT ASTERA HEALTH

Aster Health is a private, not-for-profit health care system based in Wadena, Minnesota. It offers care services such as primary health, surgery, cancer care, diagnostic imaging, obstetrics, orthopedics and rehabilitation. Aster Health operates a hospital and medical clinic in Wadena, and serves the counties of Wadena, Todd and Otter Tail through five satellite clinics and two physical therapy clinics in Bertha, Henning, Ottertail, Sebeka and Verndale. Visit asterahealth.org.

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