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**OneLegacy Announces Opening of California’s First
Dedicated Transplant Recovery Center**

*Redlands Facility Designed to Improve Donation Outcomes and Reduce Costs for
Thousands Waiting to Receive the Gift of Life Through an Organ, Eye or Tissue Donation*

(LOS ANGELES – February 7, 2018) — OneLegacy has announced the opening of California’s first dedicated Transplant Recovery Center, designed to handle organ, eye and tissue donation and to provide renewed hope to the thousands waiting to receive the gift of life.

“Repeated studies have shown that donor organ recovery performed at a dedicated facility improves donation outcomes while reducing costs,” said OneLegacy Chief Operating Officer Prasad Garimella. “Simply put, the opening of this center means that we can save more lives by enabling more rapid recovery and transplantation while freeing hospital ICU beds and operating rooms for their emergency patients. The center will also reduce the costs of recovery while providing special care for donor families.”

The new center is located in Redlands where OneLegacy has had an office presence since 1998. The 40,000-square-foot Transplant Recovery Center will operate 24/7/365 in full compliance with increasingly stringent FDA regulations regarding tissue recovery and meeting all of the standards for organ, tissue and eye recovery. Currently 27 organ procurement organizations (OPOs) throughout the nation perform tissue recoveries at dedicated suites, and 14 OPOs perform organ recoveries at their dedicated facilities.

Traditionally, when the family of a person declared brain-dead authorizes organ donation, the process of diagnosing and improving the viability of the eligible donor’s organs is managed in the donor’s hospital. “This new process of moving donor management out of the hospital takes pressure off busy hospitals where long waits for operating rooms and accessing ICU beds are common,” Garimella said. “And, unlike a hospital, there is no chance at this dedicated facility that an emergency trauma patient will come in and delay the organ recovery team.”

(More)

OneLegacy/Redland's Transplant Recovery Center

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In an article published in the *Journal of the American College of Surgeons* in 2016, transplant surgeons reported that obtaining organs from deceased organ donors costs much less and leads to a higher number of transplantable organs recovered when brain-dead donors are moved from the hospital to an independent, freestanding facility dedicated to organ recovery.

The opening of California's first dedicated Transplant Recovery Center is the latest in OneLegacy's long history of pioneering clinical innovations that allow for the successful recovery and transplantation of organs, eyes and tissue from generous donors. OneLegacy also operates the largest nonprofit eye bank in California, which houses all ocular products needed for surgical use.

In 2017 OneLegacy reported 487 organ donors and 2,642 tissue and eye donors, resulting in 1,374 lifesaving organ transplants and up to 200,000 lives healed through tissue and cornea transplantation. It also saw 1,249 corneas processed and distributed by OneLegacy, as compared to 1,054 in 2016.

Currently nearly 115,000 Americans are waiting to receive a lifesaving heart, liver, lung, kidney and/or pancreas; and 22 people die each day while waiting for this second chance at life. Nationwide, a record 34,772 organ transplants were performed in 2017 using organs from both deceased and living donors. This total is a 3.4 percent increase over 2016 and marks the fifth consecutive record-setting year for transplants in the United States.

About OneLegacy

OneLegacy is a nonprofit organization dedicated to saving lives through organ, eye and tissue donation in seven counties in Southern California: Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura, Santa Barbara and Kern. Serving more than 200 hospitals, 11 transplant centers, and a diverse population of nearly 20 million, OneLegacy is the largest organ, eye and tissue recovery organization in the world. For more information, visit onelegacy.org, like us on [Facebook](#), or follow us on [Twitter](#).

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