



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SUSAN GUNDERSON OF ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA RECEIVES ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD FROM ASSOCIATION OF ORGAN PROCUREMENT ORGANIZATIONS**



From Left to Right: Elling Eidbo, chief executive officer of AOPO; Ronda Horstman, director, donor services, CryoLife; Susan Gunderson, chief executive officer of LifeSource; Jay Campbell, J.D., AOPO president 2015-2016 and national regulatory liaison for Lifesharing.

**VIENNA, Va. — July 29, 2016, —** On Wednesday, June 22, 2016, the [Association of Organ Procurement Organizations](#) (AOPO) recognized Susan Gunderson by presenting her with the 2016 AOPO Achievement Award. Generously sponsored by [CryoLife](#), this national award recognizes an individual who demonstrates significant professional and/or personal contributions in support of AOPO and its mission. The award was presented at the Association’s 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas.

Gunderson received the award for her 27 years of dedication to the Donation and Transplantation Community of Practice. Jay Campbell, J.D., AOPO president 2015-2016, presented the award stating, “Since 1989, when [Gunderson] took the helm at [LifeSource](#), she has engaged thoughtfully and

purposefully with those in the organ procurement organization (OPO) community to support AOPO and the national donation and transplant efforts to save lives.”

Gunderson is the chief executive officer and founder of LifeSource, the OPO serving Minnesota, North and South Dakota, and portions of western Wisconsin. She has served as president of AOPO and on the boards of several national organizations within the Donation and Transplantation Community of Practice. Gunderson currently serves as chair of the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) Ad Hoc International Relations Committee and remains active on AOPO committees.

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### **About AOPO**

AOPO is a non-profit, national organization representing all federally-designated organ procurement organizations (OPOs). The Association represents and serves OPOs through advocacy, support and the development of activities that will maximize the availability of organs and tissues and enhance the quality, effectiveness and integrity of the donation process.

### **About OPOs**

OPOs are federally-designated non-profit organizations that are responsible for coordinating organ and tissue donation across the United States, bridging the gap between the generous donation of organs and tissues, and the thousands in need of these life-saving and life enhancing gifts. The federal government has designated 58 organizations in the U.S. to oversee the organ donation process. These organizations are the national stewards of the donation, and they work collaboratively with hospitals, medical professionals and their local community to build the programs, the systems and processes needed to make donation possible.