



Press Release

NHSF (UK) National Donation Month 2018

National Hindu Students' Forum (UK) supports and works with 46 universities across the UK, with the aim of developing and cultivating skills and values through a range of events and campaigns. NHSF (UK) aims to make a change and impact the wider community by actively leading campaigns, including its recent National Donation Month across November and December 2018. NHSF (UK) has also been part of the core steering group started by NHS Organ Donation and NHS Blood and Transplant to address issues of donation across the Hindu and Jain communities

The campaign encouraged students to openly discuss matters regarding donation, register themselves to donate and engage the wider Hindu community on these matters. We aimed to address the prominent under-representation by the South Asian community when it comes to organ, stem cell and blood donation; in 2016-17, 487 people of Asian heritage received an organ but only 29 donated. NHSF (UK) expanded its National Donation Day this year in recognition of the importance of our values of compassion, selflessness and seeing the whole world as one family. National Donation Month has been an opportunity to show our proactivity as a community and shed the misconceptions that hold us back.

17 different NHSF (UK)-affiliated Hindu societies across the country helped to raise awareness of the need for the Hindu community to donate through events at their university and social media campaigns. 37 youth organ donors and 31 stem cell donors were signed up at our regional sports competitions, at which NHSF (UK) worked with South Asian Health Action, National BAME Transplant Alliance and Anthony Nolan to convey the importance of these issues to students. NHSF (UK) representatives were also invited to feature on Nu Sound Radio's Lunchtime Live with Kanji show on 17th December 2018 to discuss the campaign and the actions taken.

This year's campaign has encouraged students across the country to organise further events in the new year and around the busy exam season. Nationally, NHSF (UK) will continue to work with the BAME Donation Steering Group to produce resources for the South Asian and especially Hindu community.

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For further information, please contact
NHSF (UK) Public Relations Team: prteam@nhsf.org.uk



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