

# LifeShare

A Quarterly Newsletter of LifeShare Of The Carolinas

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A Donate Life Organization

## Hollywood Stars Support Organ and Tissue Donation

KATHERINE HEIGL, A STAR OF ABC'S GREY'S ANATOMY AND HER MOTHER, NANCY, WERE RECENTLY HONORED BY THE COALITION ON DONATION FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION. THE TWO WERE PRESENTED WITH THE 2005 JAMES S. WOLF, MD COURAGE AWARD BY ACTOR/COMEDIAN GEORGE LOPEZ AND HIS WIFE ANNE.



Photo by Dan Steinberg

Pictured from left to right are Actor George Lopez, his wife Anne and Actress Katherine Heigl following presentation of the James S. Wolf Courage award in Los Angeles. Katherine and her mother won for their work in promoting donor awareness.

The Heigls' interest in donation stems from Mrs. Heigl's decision to donate her son and Katherine's brother, Jason's organs. At the Coalition meeting in Los Angeles, Mrs. Heigl said she never had any regret about her decision. "I always felt that Jason's organs were his last gift to a world for which he had the greatest affection."

Katherine has recently appeared in several magazine layouts wearing a green Donate Life bracelet. She has promoted donation through media interviews and even convinced ABC to do a public service announcement on donation following a *Grey's Anatomy* episode with a storyline on donation. On the day following the show's airing, 8,000 people visited her web site, [www.kheigl.com](http://www.kheigl.com), learning more about organ donation.

George Lopez, who received a kidney from his wife Anne in May, has also pledged his support to promote donation. An article on him and his wife ran in *People Magazine* in June.

The Wolf Courage Award is named after Dr. James S. Wolf, the founder of the Coalition on Donation. Dr. Wolf is a retired transplant surgeon and a heart transplant recipient. The award is presented annually to an individual outside of the donation community who has made a national impact on donation awareness.

Proving that regular people's contributions are important too, Jane Smith, the North Carolina teacher who donated a kidney to her student, was honored with the Courage award in 2001.

1-800-932-GIVE

[www.lifesharecarolinas.org](http://www.lifesharecarolinas.org)

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## OUR MISSION

*To improve the quality of human life through the provision of organs and tissues for transplantation and to serve our hospitals and their respective communities by providing educational and support services which enhance the donation process.*

## OUR VISION

*We envision a day when the regional supply of transplantable organs and tissues will satisfy the demand.*

## SNAPSHOTS—

### Collier Lilly Ride 4 Life Kicked Off in June

The second annual Collier Lilly Ride 4 Life was bigger and better this year and many people deserve to take credit for its success, especially our volunteers. What a way to celebrate Collier's life!

We would especially like to thank the organizing committee for all of their hard work. They are Robert Avinger, Neal Boyd, William Bray, Thorne Gregory, Robbie Howell, Whitney Montgomery and Margaret Park.



As new additions, Nikita Young, rear and Natasha Morrow, front have given LifeShare's public relations department some much needed help.

Nikasha as the two were frequently referred to in the office, were among the many volunteers who helped out at this year's bike ride and family fun event. The hit of the day however was a speech given by Dale Harrison of Utah. Dale received one of Collier's kidneys 18 years ago and is still doing well. If you didn't get a chance to hear his story, you missed it!

The second annual Collier Lilly Ride 4 Life attracted 430 cyclists and an additional 125 family members and friends to the Davidson College Campus for a day of recreational riding and inspirational messages on organ and tissue donation. Thank you to all of the sponsors, the cyclists and most of all to the organizing committee that made the day such a success. Funds from the annual ride are designated by LifeShare to heighten donor awareness.



## Let Your Fingers Do the Walking!

Please update your phone book. Effective September 24, 2005, LifeShare's Charlotte phone number and fax number are changing. To call the Charlotte office, dial (704) 512-3303. The fax number will be (704) 512- 3056. The last four digits of the main number and all direct extensions will remain the same. The 697 prefix however will no longer be operational.

If you are a healthcare provider calling our referral line, please continue to reach our clinical staff at (800) 932-(GIVE)4483. The phone number for the Asheville office will remain unchanged.

## An Important Message for Teachers, Students and Parents!

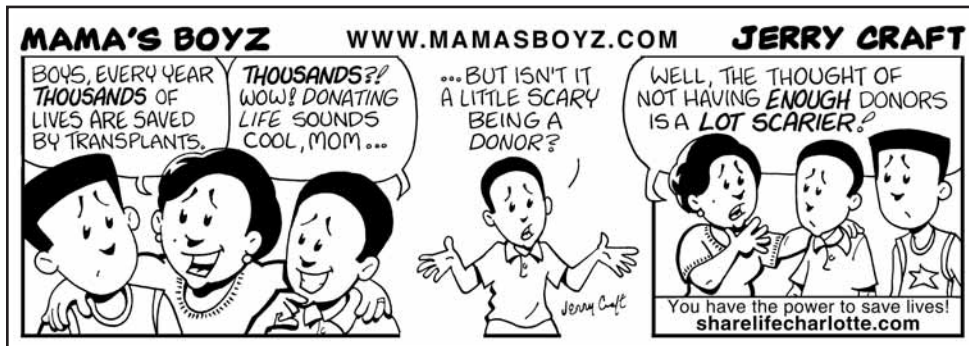
As you think about the new school year, consider adding organ and tissue donation to your subject matter. There are two programs available for high school students. Both are user-friendly and can be used by students and teachers alike.

The “License to Give” curriculum for 9th grade school students includes a workbook for teachers and students that can be downloaded from our web site at [www.lifesharecarolinas.org](http://www.lifesharecarolinas.org). An accompanying video may also be ordered by calling our office at (800) 932-4483.

In addition to the “License to Give” program, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has created a program aimed at driver’s education and high school students. The “Decision Donation” materials provide instruction that can be used in several core classes. Call 1-888-275-4772 to obtain a print copy of the program. The curriculum can also be downloaded by clicking on [www.organdonor.gov](http://www.organdonor.gov).

Whether you’re looking for a topic for a science class or a persuasive speech, consider organ and tissue donation awareness. With these resources, an A is just a click away.

## Nationally-Syndicated Cartoonist is Drawn to Organ and Tissue Donation



The Coalition on Donation and award-winning cartoonist Jerry Craft, have teamed up to illustrate the critical need for more African-American donors. As part of National Minority Donor Awareness Day, the Coalition released a series of three comic strips by Craft, an African-American cartoonist and creator of *Mama's Boyz*.

*Mama's Boyz* follows an African-American family led by a mother who lost her husband several years ago to diabetes.

“Before getting involved with the Coalition, I wasn’t aware that so many

African-Americans are waiting for transplants,” said Craft. “I’m sure they’re many others in the same boat. But once I found out, I knew I had to get involved. It’s real simple...organ donors can help save the lives of others.”

Over the past 10 years, there has been a 166% increase in the number of African-Americans on the waiting list for an organ transplant. Patients in need of a new kidney are most likely to find well-matched organs within their own racial/ethnic group, yet 70 percent of U.S. donors are Caucasian.

### Number of Registrants on the National Transplant Waiting List

Kidney	67,039
Liver	17,908
Pancreas	1,709
Pancreas Islet Cell	333
Kidney-Pancreas	2,532
Intestine	191
Heart	3,124
Heart-Lung	170
Lung	3,517
<b>NATIONAL TOTAL</b>	<b>96,515</b>
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>3,002</b>
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>1,020</b>

Based on OPTN data as of July, 2005.

# People Making

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 15

### **el Mes Nacional del Patrimonio Hispano**

Para aquellas comunidades hispano-parlantes que necesiten mayor información sobre donación de órganos y tejidos, la Coalición para la Donación desarrolló la campaña Done Vida<sup>SM</sup> que brinda un folleto y un sitio web en español ([www.donevida.org](http://www.donevida.org)). El folleto podrá adquirirse sin cargo llamando al 1-800-485-VIDA, un número para llamadas sin cargo, atendido por operadores hispano-parlantes las 24 horas del día, los 7 días de la semana.

September 15

### **National Hispanic Heritage Month**

For brochures in Spanish, call our office at (800) 932-4483.

November 11-13

### **National Donor Sabbath**

It's not too early for your congregation to start planning to participate in the National Donor Sabbath the weekend of Nov. 11-13, 2005. To order bulletin inserts, green ribbon pins or to schedule a guest speaker, call our office. A list of beliefs on organ donation by each religion is also available on our web site under the donation basics section.

## Celebrating 35 Years of Transplants in Charlotte

THE YEAR WAS 1970. THE VIETNAM WAR WAS IN FULL FORCE. CHEVY VEGAS WERE IN STYLE AND DESKTOPS WERE WHERE YOU PUT YOUR PAPERS. IT WAS ALSO THE YEAR THAT THE FIRST KIDNEY TRANSPLANT WAS PERFORMED AT CHARLOTTE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (NOW CAROLINAS MEDICAL CENTER).

Over 350 people, including kidney transplant recipients, surgeons, nurses, family members and friends gathered in April for a 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration sponsored by the Transplant Department at Carolinas Medical Center (CMC.) Among those attending were the three surgeons who led the first transplant on May 7, 1970 – Nephrologist Charles Farmer, MD, Cardiovascular Surgeon Donald Mullen, MD and Urologist R. Dale Ensor, MD.

Between 1970 and April of this year, 1,760 kidney transplants had been performed at CMC. In addition, the transplant center now also performs heart, liver, pancreas and islet cell transplants. CMC is one of five transplant centers in the state of North Carolina.



Pictured from left to right are some of the early pioneers of transplantation in Charlotte, Drs.: George Hart, Donald Mullen, Dale Ensor, Dan Hayes, Kathleen Doman, Phillip Walker, Joe Chandler and Charles Farmer. Missing from the photo is Bill Faircloth, LifeShare's Executive Director, who assisted with most of the early transplants and who has been a member of the transplant community since 1971.

*You have the power to donate life!*

# e the Difference

## LifeShare Salutes Staff Excellence and New Additions

An overwhelming number of families are deciding to donate life through organ and tissue donation. With this generosity in mind, LifeShare Of The Carolinas welcomes aboard several new staff members to assist with daily operations and special projects.

**Melanie Huntsman** and **Matthew Kinney** bring their expertise as Patient Representatives from Carolinas Medical Center to LifeShare as Family Support Coordinators. **Nikita Young** joins the staff as a Public Relations Assistant alongside **Natasha Morrow**, a college intern. Nikita is a graduate of Winston-Salem State University with a background in event planning, marketing & media promotion. Natasha is a senior at UNC-Charlotte and graduates in December with a degree in Organizational Communications.

**Cynthia Willis** is the newest Organ Recovery Coordinator in the Charlotte office. A former employee of Carolina Donor Services, she is already trained and certified. Also joining the clinical staff is **Rachel Hamdan**, a Tissue Recovery Coordinator in Charlotte. There are also several new part-time Tissue Recovery Coordinators: **Fred Ricketts** in the Asheville office and **Daniel Baltimore** and **Wayne McCarn**

who have been assigned to work in the Charlotte area.

LifeShare anticipates great things from the new staff members while celebrating the newest endeavors of the current staff. Congratulations to **Bill Hasskamp** of the Asheville office for his election to the board of the North American Transplant Coordinators Organization (NATCO) and to all of the staff members that have been selected for various committees of the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS).

**Gary Burris** was recently appointed as the Region 11 Representative to the UNOS Transplant Coordinators Committee and elected treasurer of the North Carolina Coalition on Donation. **Cozzie Watkins** was appointed to the UNOS Histocompatibility Committee. Both were appointed for two year terms.

**Dr. Daniel Hayes**, LifeShare's Medical Director, has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors for (UNOS). **Debbie Gibbs** has been selected to serve for the third consecutive year as the chair of the UNOS Communications Committee.

We are also very proud of **Dr. David Ugland**, medical director of the LifeShare Eye Bank, who was named by **Charlotte Magazine** as one of the top ophthalmologists in the area.



## PLANNING A PROGRAM?

As your organization plans its meeting calendar for the year, please think of LifeShare. Speakers from your community whose lives have been touched by organ or tissue donation are available to talk to local groups.

If you would like to schedule a free, informative presentation tailored to the needs of your organization, call the LifeShare office nearest you at (704)512-3303 or (828) 258-9503. If you are interested in joining our Speaker's Bureau, we'd also like to hear from you.

Lots of opportunities are available to help in the office, to staff a booth at a health fair or to make presentations to community groups. Call us.

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## PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION

By making a donation to LifeShare, you can help to save lives by raising organ and tissue donation awareness.

You may contribute in several ways.

In lieu of flowers, LifeShare may be designated as the organization to receive memorials for funerals.

Contributions may also be made in the name of a transplant recipient, donor or other loved one. Each person who makes a contribution to LifeShare receives a thank you letter.

A separate letter is sent to the family or person in whose honor the donation was made.

Please mail your check, payable to LifeShare, to the address on the back of the newsletter. All contributions are tax-deductible and are used for public education purposes.

## North Carolina Coalition on Donation Offers Volunteer Opportunities

Are you interested in taking your ideas and energy for promoting donation awareness to the next level? If so, you may be interested in the North Carolina Coalition on Donation (NCCOD).

The NCCOD is a nonprofit organization formed in 1992 to increase organ and tissue donation statewide through public education. The mission is to ensure that every individual in North Carolina is aware of the critical shortage of donors and is provided an opportunity to make an informed decision regarding donation.

The state's three donor recovery agencies, LifeShare Of The Carolinas, Carolina Donor Services and the North Carolina Eye Bank, provide most of the funding for the organization. The remainder comes from grants as well as dues from individual members and other participating organizations such as the National Kidney Foundation of North Carolina, the Lions Clubs of North Carolina and the National Marrow Donor Program.

The NCCOD meets quarterly, generally at one of the member offices. Among

some of the projects in which the NC Coalition has been involved are development of the License to Give educational curriculum for high school students, passage of legislation to create a statewide donor registry and creation of materials for the NC Division of Motor Vehicles.

Membership in the NCCOD is open to individuals and organizations holding a common interest in organ and tissue donation/transplantation whose interests are beneficial to the Coalition. If you are interested in joining a committee or participating in the NCCOD, please contact Ed Jenest, the chairperson at (828) 296-9708 for additional information.

The NCCOD is part of a national network of local coalitions under the umbrella of the Coalition on Donation, the not-for-profit alliance of national organizations and local coalitions which strives to educate the public, correct misconceptions about donation and create a greater willingness to donate.



LifeShare gratefully acknowledges the commitment of all nurses and other medical personnel who help to further the ideals of organ and tissue donation. It is through their efforts and the generosity of donor family members that donation occurs. When comparing statistics, please note that not all hospitals have the same donor potential.

**DONOR STATISTICS BY HOSPITAL**  
January–June 2005

Hospital	Eye	Organ	Tissue
Angel	0	0	0
Anson	0	0	0
Carolinas Medical Center	18	19	19
Cherokee	2	0	1
Cleveland	4	1	3
District Memorial	0	0	0
Gaston	12	1	16
Grace	5	0	9
Harris	4	0	2
Haywood	8	0	4
Highlands-Cashiers	0	0	7
Kings Mountain	1	0	1
Lake Norman	2	0	2
Lincoln	7	0	5
CMC - Mercy	9	0	6
CMC - Pineville	4	0	10
Mission- St. Joseph's	32	6	26
Murphy	1	0	1
NorthEast	15	4	14
Pardee	5	0	4
Park Ridge	2	0	2
Piedmont HealthCare System	0	1	0
Presbyterian	13	4	7
Presbyterian Matthews	7	0	8
Presbyterian Huntersville	4	0	3
Rutherford	3	1	6
St. Luke's	1	0	1
Stanly	8	0	8
Swain	1	0	1
Transylvania	0	0	1
Union	2	0	4
CMC - University	3	0	0
Valdese	2	0	0
VA Medical	0	0	0

**THE QUILT OF LIFE**

LifeShare is pleased to offer donor family members a special way to remember their loved ones—through our memorial quilt, the Quilt of Life.

We display the quilt in our office and at special events designed to promote organ and tissue donation. Squares are added to the quilt at least once a year, usually in the spring in time for National Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Month.

If you would like to add a square in memory of your loved one, visit our web site at [www.lifesharecarolinas.org](http://www.lifesharecarolinas.org) for size dimensions, a release form and other details. You may also call us for additional information at (704) 512-3303.

We look forward to receiving additional squares and to sharing the memory of your loved one with others.

## The Family Circle Garden

Next year's Rose Parade in Pasadena, CA will feature a very special way for millions to experience the impact of organ & tissue donation. Any family across the country that has been touched by donation is invited to sponsor a flower on the Donate Life float in "The Family Circle Garden".

Each flower will bear the name of a loved one who has given, received or awaits the gift of life. Sponsorship packages range from \$50 to \$200. Proceeds from the Family Circle Garden will fund a special web site for the Donate Life float and innovative projects that support families touched by donation.

For a complete list of what is included in each package and to dedicate a rose to a special person, visit [www.onelegacy.org/prod/components/rose2006/](http://www.onelegacy.org/prod/components/rose2006/). There is no deadline but flowers are available on a first-come basis.

The Donate Life Float will make its appearance in the Rose Parade on January 2, (not New Year's Day) 2006. It will carry the theme "Life Transformed", appropriately named to describe the effects of donation on a recipient's life.

Look for a reminder about the parade in the winter newsletter and for some faces on the float you may recognize too!



***LifeShare***  
*Of The Carolinas*

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