

# LifeShare

*A Quarterly Newsletter of LifeShare Of The Carolinas*

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## 12 Weeks of Giving...A Lifetime of Receiving

### NEW PROGRAM TARGETS AREA BUSINESSES

Just in time for the holidays, a new program aimed at companies has been unveiled. The 12 Weeks of Giving campaign, which runs Nov. 6th through February 12, 2007, is aimed at the 10,900 hospitals, companies and organizations that have already signed up to become Workplace Partners.

The businesses are being encouraged to promote donation through the workplace. Specifically, employers are asked to provide workers five minutes at the start of their work day to sign up as a donor. In order to reach as many people as possible, employers are asked to do this over any three days that the company selects.

The goal is to sign up 400,000 new organ donors during the 12-week period. The campaign is a joint venture between the nation's organ procurement organizations, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Donate Life America affiliates such as the NC Coalition on Donation.

North Carolina has more companies that have signed up for the Workplace Partnership program than any other state in the southeast. 346 businesses are located in LifeShare's service area alone.

Premier, Inc., a major healthcare consulting firm, is one of those companies. The company has already planned a program for its employees in January. A lunch and learn program will be held at the company's facility in Charlotte with satellite broadcasts to its employees in California and Washington, D.C.

Other businesses that are interested in participating in the 12 Weeks of Giving program should call LifeShare at (704) 512-3303 or (828) 258-9703. Information on the Workplace Partnership may also be found on our web site at [www.lifesharecarolinas.org](http://www.lifesharecarolinas.org).



*A Donate Life Organization*



1-800-932-GIVE

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

Editor

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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—

### Out and About, Promoting Donation



Dale Folwell, a donor father from Winston Salem and member of the NC state legislature, rode his motorcycle across the country this fall to heighten donor awareness and to raise money for research on organ regeneration. Folwell traveled to 48 states in a 30-day period. He chronicled his journey on a web site at [www.4dalton.org](http://www.4dalton.org).

Mayor Jimmy Harris officially welcomed the Five Points of Life Bike Ride to Brevard. The team traveled through the North Carolina Mountains this fall on a journey from Canada to Miami, FL promoting blood, bone marrow, organ and tissue donation.



Don't forget to tune in on New Years Day for the annual Tournament of Roses Parade. LifeShare is one of the partners of this year's Donate Life Float, "Giving from the Heart". Individuals, families or hospitals that would like to dedicate a rose for a loved one may do so at a cost between \$25 and \$200. For additional information, visit the official float web site at [www.donatelifefloat.org](http://www.donatelifefloat.org) and click on Family Circle.

# Get Game – Give Life™ Informs Basketball Fans About Urgent Need for Organ Donation

## UNC CHARLOTTE MEN'S BASKETBALL HALF-TIME PRESENTATION SEEKS TO INCREASE ORGAN DONATION SIGN-UPS

The Charlotte, North Carolina area organ transplantation community will take over center court on Sunday, January 28, 2007 as part of a GET GAME – GIVE LIFE™ organ donation awareness half-time event. That afternoon, UNC Charlotte will play the University of Massachusetts.

During half-time, a transplant surgeon from Carolinas Medical Center will provide a first-hand perspective on the importance of organ and tissue donation and the impact one can make by becoming a donor. Transplant recipients and donor family representatives will also be on court during the half-time ceremony. Staff from the transplant center at CMC, LifeShare and volunteers will hand out donor cards and other materials.

GET GAME – GIVE LIFE™ programs, sponsored by Roche, have been scheduled at 12 basketball games across the country this season to educate college students and others about the dire need for increased organ donations. The UNC Charlotte game will be the only one in the Carolinas.

This is not the first time that the 49ers have partnered with LifeShare to promote donor awareness. It will be the third time and we hope a charm. Tip-off time for the game is 1:00 p.m. It will be televised on Atlantic 10 CSTV. If you would like to volunteer to hand out materials at the game, please call LifeShare at (704) 512-3303.

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## Need a Tax-Deduction for 2006?

If you did well in the stock market this year, need another tax-deduction or just want to contribute to a good cause, we can help. By making a tax-deductible donation to LifeShare, you can help to save lives. All contributions are used for public education purposes to encourage more people to sign-up as donors.

Contributions may be made in memory of a donor, to honor a loved one or to celebrate a transplant anniversary. Please send your check in the self-addressed envelope attached to this newsletter. If you are reading this online, simply mail your check to our office at 5000 D Airport Center Parkway, Charlotte, NC 28208.

If your company has a matching gifts program, please include the necessary paperwork. All checks should be made payable to LifeShare Of The Carolinas. Please do not send cash.

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

Kidney	72,555
Liver	17,582
Pancreas	1,758
Kidney-Pancreas	2,477
Intestine	245
Heart	2,903
Heart-Lung	143
Lung	2,903
<b>NATIONAL TOTAL</b>	<b>100,525</b>
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>2,975</b>
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>658</b>

Based on OPTN data as of Nov. 10, 2006.

Please note that policies from the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) allow patients to be listed with more than one transplant center. As a result, the number of registrations is greater than the actual number of patients on the national transplant waiting list.

# *It's about giving*

## **A Family's Story**

BY TONY WHITESIDE

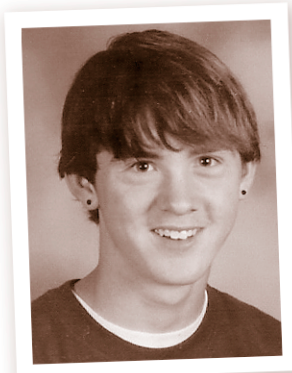
Trey Whiteside, 16 year old son of Dean and Toni Whiteside and Marsha Whiteside, was killed in a car accident in June of 2005. In keeping with Trey's wishes, the family consented to donating his organs. Trey's heart, liver, pancreas, kidneys and lung have successfully been transplanted and have extended life for people in various parts of the country. This is something that has made our loss a little easier to bear.

A few weeks ago, something phenomenal happened. So phenomenal that it could only be the work of God, said Toni Whiteside. Pam, a long distance friend of the Whiteside's, contacted one of her friends that had been very sick. They had not spoken in a long time and Pam had him on her mind. He told her that he was doing great now because he had a lung transplant in June of 2005.

She asked her friend if he knew who the donor family was. He told her no but he had received one letter from the family with only their first names. He wanted to read her the letter. As he read, Pam realized that she knew this family. To confirm her suspicions, the letter was signed by Dean and Toni. Pam then called the Whiteside's to tell them this unbelievable news—her friend had Trey's lung.

On Saturday, November 4, Dean and Toni got to meet in person the man that had their son's lung. He is 67 year old Ron Dunbar. The meeting was filled with emotion for both parties. We talked for hours and shared pictures.

Ron described the time when he had to depend on tanks of oxygen. It was difficult for him to walk or change his clothes. He was even on life support for a few weeks. Now when going to church, he parks in the farthest parking spot away from the building just so he can proudly walk in without any difficulty. He is so thankful. He told us that a part of our son was with him. Because of that, he will stand taller and live better.



Trey Whiteside



Toni and Dean Whiteside met the man who received their son, Trey's, lung this fall. Ron Dunbar, the recipient, is pictured in the center.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**January 15, 2007**

Daybreak of Freedom  
Charlotte Symphony concert  
*Blumenthal Performing Arts Center*

**January 28, 2007**

Get Game, Give Life  
*UNC Charlotte Halton Arena*

**February 10th, 2007**

Saturn National Donor Day  
*Saturn dealerships  
Asheville, Charlotte and Concord*

**April, 2007**

Donate Life Month  
*Nationwide*

**June 9, 2007**

Collier Lilly Ride 4 Life  
*Davidson, NC*

*You have the power to donate life!*

# the gift of Life

A MESSAGE FOR DONOR FAMILIES—

## Grief and the Holidays

The holidays are a time filled with celebrations, traditions and hectic schedules, but for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one, they can be anything but happy. For the newly bereaved in particular, they can be the worst time of the year.

Chris Crawford, a grief counselor and donor mother, developed a list of suggestions for Kinder-Mourn called, "Living Through the Holidays with Grief." We are printing it with her permission in the hope that it will help other donor families who are grieving this holiday season.

- The holidays will come and go. We cannot skip them. Accept that.
- Be choosy in planning personal and family activities.
- Skip events that have no meaning to you.
- Plan ways to memorialize, to honor, and to remember your loved one.
- Turn to others for support and accept the support they are able to give.
- Expect moments and hours filled with pain: accept those times and find ways to express yourself.
- Know that there may be periods of joy. Accept that too.
- Resist the demands of the season. Put other's expectations aside.
- Avoid making commitments you may not wish to or may not be able to keep.
- Decide which traditions are important to keep and which ones you want to discard.
- Do things that bring some comfort. Take diligent care of yourself.
- Include grieving children in the process of making family plans. Ask them what they need and how they wish to participate.
- Reach out to at least one other person.
- Tend to your spiritual life.
- Be aware that you are the only person who knows what you need.

### MICHAEL'S CHRISTMAS WISH

The lights are so pretty and  
the songs are so sweet,  
but this Christmas for you will  
seem incomplete.

I know that you wonder why  
I'm not there,  
I've heard you ask God when  
you say your prayers.

You know, God has a plan  
and one day you'll see.  
It'll all make sense, why he  
had to take me.

It's ok to cry, 'cause I wipe  
your tears.  
My arms are around you to  
calm your fears.

Though I'm not there, I'm not  
too far away.  
Promise you'll join me in  
Heaven one day.

To be with you again is my  
Christmas wish.  
Please put God's word at the  
top of your list.

So, trim the tree and wrap  
the presents,  
but don't you forget what  
this time represents.

It's all about Jesus, so spread  
the Good News.  
When you put Him first, you  
have nothing to lose.

I'm really excited to have  
been forgiven,  
'cause I get to have Christmas  
with Jesus in Heaven.

Written by Anita Erwin  
Donor Mother for her son, Michael

## 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.

## 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.

## TWO AREA HOSPITALS EARN MEDALS OF HONOR

# Gaston Memorial and Mission-St. Joseph's Receive Special Awards

Gaston Memorial and Mission Hospitals were among seven North Carolina hospitals recently honored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). They won medals of distinction for their work in saving lives through organ donation.

The hospitals were among 787 others nationwide that met eligibility criteria established by the federal government. According to HHS, 1,200 more transplants were performed last year than the year before as a result of the work of all of the hospitals that were honored.

Rear Admiral Kenneth Moritsugu, Acting U.S. Surgeon General, presented representatives of each hospital with a medal of honor. He said, "as we celebrate these outstanding accomplishments, let us remember that behind each number is a human face: an individual who has made a gift of life by becoming an organ donor, and the people who have benefited from a life-giving, life-enhancing transplant."

Nancy Carter, Mike Johnston and Cathy Moore received the medals on behalf of Gaston Memorial. Representing Mission-St. Joseph's were Jerene Broadway, MarySue Carson and Michael Carter. Joining them were Cynthia Willis and Melissa Parker, LifeShare's liaisons to the two hospitals respectively.

LifeShare was among the organ procurement organizations recognized along with the hospitals at the National Learning Congress on Organ Donation and Transplantation in New Orleans. We would like to extend hearty congratulations to Gaston and to Mission for their efforts and for their continued support.



Acting Surgeon General Dr. Kenneth Moritsugu posed with representatives of Gaston Memorial, Mission-St. Joseph's Hospital and LifeShare at the National Learning Congress. Seated from left to right are: Melissa Parker, MarySue Carson, Dr. Moritsugu, Cathy Moore and Michael Carter. Standing from left to right are: Gary Burris, Jerene Broadway, Cynthia Willis, Nancy Carter and Mike Johnston.

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**  
July–September 2006

Hospital	Eye	Organ	Tissue
Angel	0	0	0
Anson	1	0	1
Carolinas Medical Center (CMC)	15	13	15
CMC - Lincoln	2	0	2
CMC - Mercy	0	0	0
CMC - Pineville	0	0	0
CMC - Union	4	0	4
CMC - University	2	0	0
Cherokee	0	0	0
Cleveland	5	0	4
District Memorial	0	0	0
Gaston	7	1	8
Grace	2	0	1
Harris	2	0	1
Haywood	1	0	0
Highlands-Cashiers	0	0	0
Kings Mountain	2	0	2
Lake Norman	0	0	2
Mission - St. Joseph's	11	4	6
Murphy	0	0	0
NorthEast	8	3	6
Pardee	2	0	2
Park Ridge	1	0	1
Presbyterian	3	1	4
Presbyterian Matthews	4	0	3
Presbyterian Huntersville	1	0	2
Rutherford	1	0	1
St. Luke's	1	0	0
Stanly	2	0	1
Swain	0	0	0
Transylvania	1	0	0
Valdese	0	0	0
VA Medical	1	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.

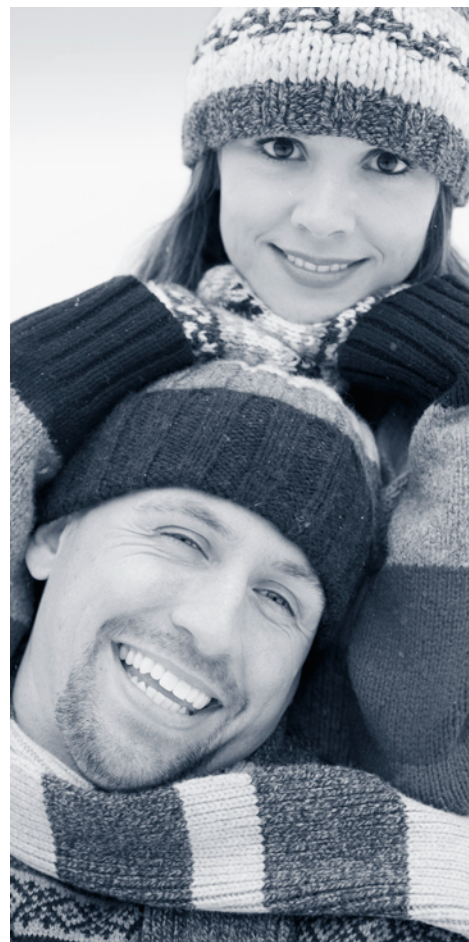
## A Holiday Message from LifeShare

As another year ends, we pause to remember the individuals who are the reason we exist, the donors. These individuals weren't just eye, organ and tissue donors. They were spouses, parents, siblings and children. Maybe one of them was your relative or a special friend.

LifeShare would like to extend warm wishes to everyone with whom we came in contact during the past year—donor family members, transplant recipients, nurses, doctors, vendors and other healthcare providers who have supported our mission to save lives. This tribute however, is dedicated to the donors of 2006. It is in the spirit of giving that we think of them and each you.

It is in the spirit of giving that we are happy to report that our staff donated food to help a local church provide dinner for those less fortunate at Thanksgiving. As is our tradition, we will also “adopt” some of the children in our community to make sure that on Christmas morning they too have something to smile about.

This New Year remember to sign a donor card and to discuss your wishes on organ and tissue donation with your family. It's the one New Year's Resolution that's easy to keep!



**LifeShare**  
*Of The Carolinas*

5000-D Airport Center Parkway  
Charlotte, NC 28208