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A Donate Life Organization

Increase in Donor Registrations Results in Lives Saved

One September evening, Logan Stroud was driving home from class. Before he could get there, the eighteen-year old was involved in a car accident that left him in critical condition. He was immediately taken to the hospital.

Everyone watched and waited as the doctors and nurses exhausted all avenues to save him. Logan's injuries were so severe that he did not survive them. It was there that I, as a LifeShare staff member, met Logan's family at the worst time of their lives and that I ultimately discussed Logan's wishes with his family.

Logan had made the decision that in the event of his death he wanted to save the lives of others. He had a heart on his driver's license signifying his choice to be an organ and eye donor.

Logan was one of approximately four million North Carolina residents who have signed up at the DMV or through the online donor registry. As the number of people who have joined the registry has increased, so has the number of donors. In our region, a record 53% of the organ donors LifeShare has worked with in 2010 have been on the registry. That statistic is consistent with what is happening around the country.

Donate Life America estimates that 7,000 lives were saved last year by people who had designated themselves as donors on their state registry. Behind each of them is a person like Logan.

His decision to be a donor came as no surprise to his family who described him as a caring and generous person. It was apparent how loved he was by the amount of family and friends who gathered at his bedside to support him and his family.

Because of Logan's choice, six lives were saved. Parents can continue to raise their children. Spouses can continue to grow old together and friendships continue to be cultivated. Logan will live on by way of his generous gift and in the hearts and minds of all those he has touched.

It was my privilege to get to know Logan's family. On behalf of all of the people whose lives he saved, I want to thank him for thinking of others and for giving the gift of life.

**SUBMITTED BY CHRISTINE COSTELLO,
FAMILY SUPPORT COORDINATOR**



1-800-932-GIVE
www.lifesharecarolinas.org

Editor
Debbie Gibbs

Associate Editor
Gary Burris

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.

LifeShare Passes Critical Inspections

This has been LifeShare's year for inspections. Regulatory surveyors from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have all paid visits to our offices during the past six months. We are pleased to report that we joined an elite group of donor recovery agencies in passing their inspections.

Because LifeShare recovers organs, eyes and tissues for transplantation, we are subject to federal guidelines and oversight which includes periodic, unscheduled inspections. The July visit from CMS was the first one we have had in several years.

There is still one major hurdle to cross. Later this year, we anticipate a site visit from the Association of Organ Procurement Organizations (AOPO). This will be the first time that LifeShare has applied for certification by AOPO.

We did well with a mock survey in July. Given the skill and commitment of our team, we are optimistic that we'll be able to add AOPO accreditation to our accomplishments. Look for more good news in January!



Yolanda Moore, a LifeShare Quality Assurance Coordinator, represented the organization at a local health fair in August presented by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

Congratulations to our own Bill Hasskamp who was recently installed as President of the North American Transplant Coordinators Association. Bill, an Organ Recovery Coordinator in our Asheville office, has worked with LifeShare for nearly 11 years.





National Donor Sabbath 2010

A SPIRITUAL CELEBRATION OF THE GIFT OF LIFE

Mark your calendar for the 15th annual National Donor Sabbath. Better yet, ask your religious leaders now to start planning an observance for their congregations during the weekend of Nov. 12–14, 2010.

The National Donor Sabbath brings together religious and transplant communities to raise awareness of the critical need for organ and tissue donors. It is also intended to dispel the myth that religion is a reason not to donate.

LifeShare has a listing of all of the position statements of religious faiths on our web site under the resource section. If you're not sure about yours, ask your minister or visit our web site at lifesharecarolinas.org.

Churches across North Carolina will observe the National Donor Sabbath on Sunday, November 14th through worship services, information sharing and straight talk about the need for more organs and tissues to be donated. LifeShare is asking everyone in our service area to join us in the observance.

Some suggestions for planning an observance are as follows:

- Print information in your bulletin or newsletter about the National Donor Sabbath
- Provide bulletin inserts for a Donor Sabbath observance
- Conduct a donor drive with an information table at your place of worship
- Speak or arrange a speaker for a service, youth or adult Sunday school class
- Ask your pastor to send an e-mail to the congregation supporting donation

LifeShare can provide materials and speakers upon request to support your congregation's observance. To get yours, contact Debbie Gibbs at (704) 512-3303 or dgibbs@carolinas.org.

Thanks!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Thank you to the ladies of the churches below that have provided LifeShare with prayer shawls which we have been able to give to grieving donor families. Your generosity is much appreciated.

First Reformed Church, Landis, NC

Sardis Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, NC

Number of Candidates on the National Transplant Waiting List

Kidney	85,958
Liver	16,051
Pancreas	1,434
Kidney-Pancreas	2,196
Heart	3,166
Lung	1,818
Heart-Lung	76
Intestine	251
NATIONAL TOTAL	108,389
North Carolina	3,345
South Carolina	962

Based on OPTN data as of August 27, 2010.

Still Sharing the

CALENDAR *of events*

September 15–October 15, 2010

National Hispanic Heritage Month
Nationwide

Log onto donevida.org

October 16, 2010

Volunteer Training

9:30 am to 2:00 pm

Hilton Garden Inn

Downtown Charlotte

October 22, 2010

Donation Symposium

Shaping the Future of Donation
and Transplantation

7:30 am to 4:00 pm

Mint Museum

500 S. Tryon Street

Charlotte, NC 28202

November 12–14, 2010

National Donor Sabbath

Churches and Congregations

Nationwide

Local Kidney Recipient Selected for National Brochure on Older Adults

When a new brochure targeted at the Hispanic community is released later this year, one of the profiles will be on a LifeShare volunteer. Benjamin Parra received a kidney transplant 12 years ago and has been living life to the fullest ever since.

His transplant followed two difficult years of dialysis while he waited anxiously on the national transplant waiting list. Meanwhile, Benjamin had a friend and co-worker he knew from their native South America who volunteered to donate a kidney to him. Luckily, Carlos Lizarazo was a match.

Soon after the transplant surgery, both men were able to return to work. Benjamin is now retired and enjoying life with his family. Carlos, his donor, is also well and still working. He too plans to retire later this year and will move back to his home in Colombia to be closer to family and friends.

The brochure that Benjamin will appear in is part of a national campaign by the Health Services Resource Administration (HRSA) to reach older Hispanic adults. Research shows that many older Americans mistakenly rule themselves out as donors. The most common reasons are health concerns and that they believe that they are too old.

The truth is many people age 50 and over ARE candidates for organ and/or tissue donation. At LifeShare, we routinely recover organs and tissues from mature adults. Our oldest organ donor to date was 84. The decision on who can and can't be a donor is based on each individual's health at the time of death.

We encourage everyone who would like to donate to join the NC Donor Registry by signing up at the DMV or online at www.ungrancorazon.org. The need for Hispanic donors is particularly great. People of Hispanic descent make up 14% of the U.S. population but 18% of the people on the waiting list for an organ transplant.

If you don't think that one person can make a difference in the lives of others, just ask Benjamin!

You have the power to donate life!

e Gift of Life!

Recipiente Local de Riñón en Folleto Dirigido a Adultos Mayores

Cuando un Nuevo folleto dirigido a la Comunidad Hispana sea lanzado a fines de año, una de las historias incluidas será la de un voluntario de LifeShare (Compartir vida). Benjamin Parra recibió un trasplante de riñón hace 12 años y desde esa fecha has estado viviendo su vida plenamente.

Su trasplante siguió dos años difíciles de diálisis mientras esperaba ansiosamente por un donante. Durante su espera, un amigo y colega, el cual conocía de su natal Sur America, ofreció donarle un riñón. Con mucha suerte, Carlos Lizarazo resulto ser un donante compatible.

Poco después de la cirugía, los dos regresaron a trabajar. Hoy en día, Benjamin esta retirado y gozando de la vida con su familia. Carlos, su donante, sigue muy bien de salud y continúa trabajando. Se retirara el año próximo en Colombia para estar cerca de su familia y amigos.

El folleto en que Benjamin aparecerá es parte de una campaña nacional de la Administración de Recursos y Servicios de Salud (HRSA) para llegar a adultos mayores hispanos. Investigaciones sobre este tema demuestran que muchos americanos mayores erróneamente se descartan de ser donantes. Las razones más comunes son que creen que son demasiado viejos y preocupaciones de salud.

La verdad es que muchas personas de más de 50 años SON candidatos para ser donantes de órganos y tejidos. Aquí en LifeShare (Compartir Vida) rutinariamente recuperamos órganos y tejidos de adultos mayores. La decisión de quien puede o no puede ser donante está basada en la salud de cada individuo al momento de su muerte. Hasta la fecha, nuestro donante de órganos de mayor edad tenía 84 años.

Animamos a todos aquellos que quieren ser donantes que se unan al registro de donantes de NC. Para hacer esto visite la oficina de DMV (Departamento de Vehículos Motorizados) o la página www.ungrancorazon.org.

La necesidad de donantes Hispanos es muy grande. Personas de descendencia Hispana forman el 14% de la población de los Estados Unidos, pero el 18% de la lista de espera para trasplantes de órganos.

Si usted no cree que una persona puede hacer la diferencia en las vidas de otros, solo pregunte a Benjamin.



Carlos, left and Benjamin, shortly after surgery.

National Hispanic Heritage Month

September 15 to October 15, 2010

For more information on organ donation, log onto www.donovida.org.

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) 665-0107. 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.

SPOTLIGHT ON

Maureen Lear

Anson Community Hospital Nurse Manager

For over 18 years Maureen Lear has had a major impact on the wellness of residents in Wadesboro, NC. Employed by Anson Community Hospital (ACH) as a Nurse Manager in the Emergency Department, Maureen feels that the best part of her job is knowing that she has been able to help people involved in a personal crisis, be it theirs or a loved one's.



She knows that during emotional times people look to nurses not just for their clinical skills but for compassion, understanding and guidance. She believes that part of her role is to also provide the human touch: listening, hand-holding, giving support and providing assurance.

Maureen has been instrumental in ensuring that ACH routinely has one of the highest timely referral rates (97% through June 2010) of the 40 hospitals in LifeShare's service area. She says that her support of donation stems from the belief that, "organ, tissue and eye donation is an example of a person's desire at the very end of their life to make a difference by helping a perfect stranger to have a better life."

Maureen has certainly made a difference in the lives of the people of Wadesboro, including her own family. When she is away from work she enjoys listening to music, traveling, flying kites at the beach, and spending time with children.

LifeShare is pleased to work with such a high performing professional and a true donation champion. Please join us in congratulating her for a job well done.

SUBMITTED BY LUCAS CAIN, LIFESHARE HOSPITAL DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST



A night of music to celebrate the life of Sadie Redding was held in Lincolnton, NC in August. Laura Page, organizer of the event and Sadie's friend, left, presented roses to Tifanie McCollum, Michael McCollum, who received Sadie's liver, Charlotte Hampton, her kidney and pancreas recipient and to her parents Chrissie and Marcus Redding (right).

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
April–June 2010

Hospital	Eye	Organ	Tissue
Angel	1	0	0
Anson	0	0	0
Carolinas Medical Center (CMC)	27	18	31
CMC - Lincoln	1	0	0
CMC - Mercy	0	0	0
CMC - NorthEast	12	1	8
CMC - Pineville	3	0	1
CMC - Union	2	0	2
CMC - University	4	0	2
Cherokee	0	0	0
Cleveland	3	0	2
Gaston	8	0	5
Grace	1	0	3
Harris	1	0	1
Haywood	4	0	2
Highlands-Cashiers	1	0	1
Kings Mountain	1	0	0
Lake Norman	5	0	3
Mission - St. Joseph's	14	8	12
Murphy	0	0	0
Pardee	3	0	1
Park Ridge	0	0	0
Presbyterian	7	0	2
Presbyterian Huntersville	2	0	0
Presbyterian Matthews	0	0	0
Rutherford	0	0	0
St. Luke's	0	0	0
Stanly	5	0	4
Swain	0	0	0
Transylvania	1	0	1
Valdese	1	0	0
VA Medical	0	0	0

Quilt of Life

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

We display the quilts in our office and at special events designed to promote organ and tissue donation. Squares are added to the quilts 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 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.

LifeShare

Of The Carolinas

5000-D Airport Center Parkway
Charlotte, NC 28208

LifeShare Offers Volunteer Training

SIGN UP NOW TO ATTEND

As a not-for-profit organization, LifeShare is invited to participate in well over a hundred programs in a variety of settings each year. Chances are one of them is in a community near you.

LifeShare is sponsoring a volunteer training session on Saturday, October 16, 2010. It will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn, 508 East Martin Luther King Blvd. in Charlotte.

We are pleased to welcome back Frank Bodino and Dave Lively from Transplant Speakers International (TSI). TSI facilitates volunteer training sessions for organ procurement organizations all over the country. This will be the third one the organization has conducted for LifeShare.

Some volunteers have no obvious connection to donation. Others are hospital staff members. Most are people who are transplant recipients or donor family members. There is nothing more inspiring to an audience than to hear personal stories from people's own experiences.

If you'd like to share your story, we would love to have your participation. Even if you're not comfortable talking in front of a group, there are things that you can do to help. If you're interested, please sign-up by contacting Jennifer McCarn at (704) 512-3303 or e-mail her at jmccarn@lifesharecarolinas.org.

Reservations are required to make sure we have lunch and materials for everyone.

