



25 things I love about LifeGift

By Shannon Lenox: Donor Mother and Vital Volunteer

My story starts on March 29, 2010, when I received the phone no parent ever wants to receive. My son was in a horrific accident and sent to the hospital via helicopter.

Eight months after Roy's passing, I quit my job to volunteer for LifeGift and be an advocate for organ and tissue donation. Here are 25 things I love about LifeGift.

1. The employees
2. The professionalism of the staff
3. The support they give to the donor families
4. The way they advocate for recipients and their families
5. The Vital Volunteer Program
6. The Donor Family Services Department and the work done to help donor families and recipients communicate with one another
7. The Donor Resource Center, a 24/7 lifeline for organ and tissue donation.
8. The Communications Department, which works tirelessly to spread the word about donation and to help educate people and dispel the myths surrounding donation
9. The Clinical Operations Department, which works to facilitate the donation process and offers support to families during difficult times
10. The Donor Medal Ceremony to pay tribute to donors and their families.
11. The Workplace Partner Program
12. The Candle Lighting Ceremony, which allows families to come and light a candle in honor of their loved one
13. The quilt squares that are given to donor families as a way to honor their loved one
14. The LifeGift Board of Directors
15. The LifeGift Facebook pages
16. The LifeGift Vital Volunteer Facebook Page
17. The Life Lines blog
18. The opportunities that LifeGift gives to donor families and recipients to speak on behalf of LifeGift and the importance of donation
19. The community events that volunteers are invited to be a part of in order to educate about donation
20. The opportunity I was given to represent LifeGift at the National Donor Recognition Ceremony and Workshop in Washington D.C.
21. The memory box that is sent to all donor families.
22. The cards LifeGift sends to donor families during their first year of loss
23. For the pleasure of getting to meet such awesome people who love what they do
24. For working with a wonderful team
25. For the support of my blanket ministry. Without the help of LifeGift and President and CEO, Sam Holtzman, "It's a Heck of a Blanket" would not be able to support donor families