



“Julia’s Gift” keeps legacy of tissue donor alive

Community outreach project fulfills destiny of 17-year-old’s desire to help others



Beth Mosele

Julia Mosele’s destiny in this world is to help others. In 2002, Julia, at age 17, was tragically killed in a car accident.

Her family knew she would want to be a tissue and eye donor. Consequently, the lives of 26 people across the country were saved or enhanced through her gifts.

In collaboration with LifeGift, Beth and Tom Mosele created “Julia’s Gift” – a community awareness program about organ and tissue donation. Through “Julia’s Gift,” Julia’s legacy continues to reach people and encourage them to register as organ and tissue donors.

Beth worked closely with LifeGift to create a poster that dramatically shows the impact of Julia’s gifts. Julia, a talented artist, would have been proud of the tiny doves that pinpoint the locations of her recipients across the United States. Displayed in hospitals throughout Houston, Lubbock, Amarillo and Fort Worth, the posters serve as reminders of what it means to be an organ and tissue donor.

Julia’s story is shared by her mother through media outlets – TV, radio and

newspapers. One of the key messages Beth emphasizes is the importance of talking to your family about the decision to donate.

Back in the mid-1980s when Beth started her career as a medical social worker, she began to learn about transplantation. She and her husband, Tom, had lengthy discussions about donation. As their children grew older, they were included in these conversations about organ donation and how it helps others.

“We decided as a family that if the tragic circumstances presented themselves, we would be organ and tissue donors,” Beth said. “Having that conversation was so important because when Julia died, we automatically knew what decision to make.”

Beth’s passion for donation expands beyond her personal experience with her daughter. In her professional life, she is a heart transplant social worker for The Methodist Hospital in Houston, where she works with recipients and their family members.

“We are well on our way to making ‘Julia’s Gift’ a reality,” said Beth. “This project works

toward fulfilling Julia’s dreams – helping others – in more ways than she could ever imagine.”

For more information about organ and tissue donation and “Julia’s Gift,” visit www.lifegift.org.

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Getting to the heart of the matter

DONOR MOM SHARES EXPERIENCE WITH ORGAN DONATION

Sarah Scarborough and her mother, Mary Jane Scarborough, were like two peas in a pod. They finished each other's sentences and resembled each other so closely you sometimes couldn't tell them apart.

When you listen to Mary Jane talk about Sarah, you quickly conclude that Sarah loved life and that she never met a stranger. She exemplified that unselfishness by registering as an organ and tissue donor when she turned 16.

"There was no question about it," said Mary Jane. "Sarah was adamant about being an organ, blood and marrow donor. She wanted to help others."

On Dec. 23, 2008, Mary Jane lost Sarah, her only child, to a brief and sudden illness. And although it was extremely difficult and painful, Mary Jane found comfort in knowing that Sarah was an organ and tissue donor and went on to save the lives of others after her death.

One of these lives was that of a 34-year-old woman from Angleton, Texas, who received Sarah's heart on Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve. Mary Jane had the opportunity to meet Sarah's heart recipient, Dana Reeder, during a reunion planned by LifeGift in 2009. Since the reunion, Mary Jane has stayed in touch with Dana through cards, letters and conversations. Through the process, she learned different things about Dana, like the fact that she's a dog lover – just like



Mary Jane Scarborough listens to her daughter's heart beat inside recipient Dana Reeder.

Sarah. Dana takes her dogs to nursing homes as therapy dogs. Mary Jane said that Sarah would have been tickled to know that she had this in common with the person who received her heart.

"Losing Sarah was devastating. I lost my only child and my husband in the same year," said Mary Jane. "But it helps me so much to know that so many lives were saved and improved because of Sarah's decision to donate."

LifeGift 2nd Chance Run

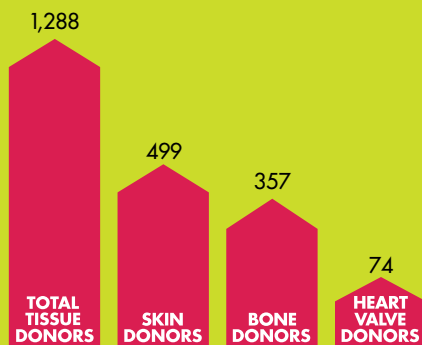


5K Run/Walk
1 Mile Fun Run/Walk
Saturday, May 15, 2010

Visit www.lifegift.org
for results from the 5k run.

LifeGift's Current Performance

Oct. 1, 2009 – March 31, 2010



77%
ORGAN DONATION
CONSENT RATE

146
ORGAN DONORS

538
TOTAL ORGANS

INDUSTRY NEWS BRIEF

LifeGift participates in testimonial video about CompuCom

Earlier this year, LifeGift was approached by its IT partner, CompuCom, to participate in a video to be shared with CompuCom associates across the globe. The premise of the video was to highlight how critical CompuCom's services are to keeping a business running on a daily basis.

After evaluating multiple clients to interview for the video testimonial, CompuCom decided to focus only on LifeGift because of its mission of saving lives. **Sam Holtzman**, president and CEO of LifeGift, who was featured in the video, referenced how CompuCom supported LifeGift during Hurricane Ike, the Category 2 storm that slammed into the Texas Coast in September of 2008. Because LifeGift was able to stay connected to the outside world, five lives were saved through organ and tissue donation.

LifeGift's CompuCom representative, **Rudy Taylor** also was interviewed, as well as **Gary and Linda Lupher**, LifeGift volunteers and donor parents. The video was released in March to CompuCom's 10,500+ associates on YouTube and Facebook. To view the video, please visit http://www.lifegift.org/lifegift/info/lifegift_and_compucom_join_forces/.



RUDY TAYLOR, JR.
CompuCom Associate & IT Director, LifeGift

LEADERSHIP LINE



Donate Life Houston!

by Samuel M. Holtzman III, LifeGift President and CEO

What if I told you there was something that you could do right now, that would take less than five minutes, cost you absolutely nothing and would possibly save the life of another person. Would you do it?

Each of us has it within his or her power to save a life ... or many lives ... simply by registering to be an organ and tissue donor.

In 2006, an organization called Donate Life America launched an all-out national effort to improve donation rates by ensuring that each state had an effective system for allowing individuals to register as organ and tissue donors. Donate Life America strives to help every state establish or improve its donor registry. It has encouraged each state to test, adopt and share best practices that measurably increase the number of registered donors.

Donate Life America has two national goals: 1) 100 million registered donors and 2) 50 percent of licensed drivers registered. As of April 2010, 86.3 million people were enrolled in state donor registries. In the 26 states and the District of Columbia that were able to track donor designation rates in the last quarter of 2009, 35.8 percent of licensed drivers were registered.

All 50 states now have some form of electronic donor registry, including Donate Life Texas; however, other states have been much more effective in encouraging their adult population over 18 years of age to get registered. In 2009, Wyoming led the way with 81 percent of its adult population registered. Rounding out the top 10 states were Alaska, Montana and Oregon with more than 70 percent. Indiana, North Dakota, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Utah, Washington and Colorado reported more than 60 percent.

Sadly, Texas, one of the most populous states, ranks at the bottom of the list of all states with less than 4 percent of our adult population over 18 years of age registered. Texas has a long way to go!

Recently, Donate Life America (a registered trademark) agreed to do something it has never done before. In an effort to build the registry in Texas, it has agreed to allow an entity other than a state to use the Donate Life logo ... this entity is Houston. Officially announced during Donate Life Month in April, Donate Life Houston is striving to get 80 percent of Houstonians registered as organ and tissue donors.

Donate Life Houston is a unique opportunity for Houston to lead the way for the entire state and help the more than 9,000 Texans currently in need of lifesaving organ transplants. This also opens the door for other major metropolitan areas to follow suit.

Texans are known for having open hearts and open minds. I challenge everyone across our great state to embrace this chance to shine.



West Region Volunteer holds bowling event

Erica Turner, one of the newest faces to the Vital Volunteer program in the West Region, took her passion for bowling and turned it into an opportunity to raise awareness of organ and tissue donation while she waits in line for a liver transplant.

The 23-year-old college student recently hosted the “Bowl for Life Event” at Western Bowl in Amarillo on April 24. Working in conjunction with LifeGift, Erica planned and promoted all aspects of the event. Approximately 25 of Erica’s friends and family members came out to support her cause and she even garnered some local media attention!

Erica, who has been bowling since she was about 5 or 6 years old, thought a bowling event would be a unique way to bring awareness to LifeGift and the need for organ and tissue donors.



Erica Turner, center, with her mother, Beth, and niece at the event.

“As a patient on the transplant list, I understand just how critical the need is for donors,” said Erica. “I wanted to do something that would help raise awareness of this important issue. People don’t realize the importance of it until it affects their family.”

Erica suffers from Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency (Alpha-1) a hereditary genetic disorder. Patients with Alpha-1 cannot produce enough of the Alpha-1 antitrypsin protein, which plays

an important role in preventing the breakdown of enzymes in the liver and the lungs.

The Amarillo College student has been waiting for a liver for 18 months and travels to and from Baylor University Hospital in Dallas and Baylor All Saints in Fort Worth for her checkups, procedures and tests. Erica hopes that the “Bowl for Life Event” becomes a tradition, even after she’s had her transplant, to help further LifeGift’s mission.

VOLUNTEER PROFILE: DON “SPARKY” KENDRICK



After his first heart attack in 1991, Don “Sparky” Kendrick was given a pacemaker. As a joke, his friends gave him a 9-volt battery, complete with dangling wires that shot out sparks – just in case he needed a “jump start.” His wife started calling him “Sparky,” and the nickname stuck. But just three years later, Kendrick was diagnosed with congestive heart failure, and by 2007, his heart could only pump at 17 percent capacity. He needed a new heart just to survive.

The following year, Kendrick received that new spark of life in the form of a heart transplant. He is now actively involved with LifeGift’s Vital Volunteer program, Methodist Transplant Friends and the Helping Hearts Support Group in Houston.

“I can give back,” Kendrick said about volunteering, “and help not only those waiting for transplants, but encourage more people to register as organ and tissue donors.” “Sparky” continues to champion the cause with an electric energy that spreads to everyone he meets.

Nueva coordinadora de relaciones públicas embarca a un nuevo papel

Durante más de cuatro años, Elvia Valdez ha servido en los campos relacionados con las comunicaciones de reportaje de noticias, medios de noticias y relaciones públicas. Valdez se afilió a LifeGift basado en Houston como la Coordinadora de Relaciones Públicas en el Febrero de 2010. Su papel incluye relaciones de medios, escritura de publicaciones, la enseñanza multicultural y sirviendo como la portavoz de habla hispana.

La carrera de Valdez comenzó en un camino no tradicional, pero finalmente realizó su sueño de toda la vida del funcionamiento en el campo de comunicaciones. Su primer trabajo en el campo de comunicaciones fue con KXLN-TV, el afiliado de Univisión de Houston. Ella también tiene la experiencia en la industria del aceite y de gas, pero el más recientemente fue en el servicio público con la Ciudad de Houston como el Coordinador de Proyectos Especiales para

todos los Miembros de Concejal Municipal. Durante su tenencia con la Ciudad, Valdez contribuyó decisivamente a la producción de un informe de análisis de comparación – la primera de su clase – de las diez ciudades más grandes en los Estados Unidos, que fue presentado a todos los líderes de ciudad como un instrumento para mejorar el paquete de beneficios de la Ciudad de Houston.

Un miembro de la Asociación Internacional de Comunicadores Comerciales, Valdez espera seguir su educación de modo que ella pueda seguir aprendiendo del mundo de comunicaciones que cambia diariamente. Ella es graduada de la Universidad de San. Thomas, y tiene una licenciatura en comunicaciones.



Regalos de Julia guarda la herencia del donante de tejido vivo

El trabajo comunitario mantiene realizado el destino de una joven de 17 años del deseo de ayudar a otros

El destino de Julia Mosele en este mundo era ayudar a otros. En 2002, Julia, a la edad de 17 años murió trágicamente en un accidente de coche. Su familia sabía que ella querría ser un donante de ojo y tejido. Por su generosidad, las vidas de las 26 personas a través del país fueron salvadas o realizadas por sus regalos.

En la colaboración con LifeGift, Beth y Tom Mosele crearon a Julia's Gift o Regalos de Julia – un programa de conciencia de comunidad sobre la donación de órganos y tejidos. Por este proyecto, la herencia de Julia sigue alcanzando a la gente y animarlos a registrarse como donantes de órgano y tejido.

Beth trabajó muy cerca con LifeGift para crear un poster que dramáticamente muestra el impacto de los regalos de Julia. Julia, una artista talentosa, hubiera estado orgullosa de las palomas blancas que señalan las posiciones de sus recipientes a través de los Estados Unidos. Estos posters sirven como recordatorios de lo que es ser un donante de órgano y tejido.

La historia de Julia es también compartida por su madre por medios de televisión, radio y periódicos. Uno de los mensajes claves que Beth enfatiza es la importancia de hablar con su familia sobre la decisión de donar.

A mediados de los años 1980 cuando Beth comenzó su carrera como una trabajadora social en el ambiente médico, ella comenzó a aprender sobre los trasplantes. Ella y su marido, Tom, tenían discusiones larguísimas sobre la donación. Cuando sus

niños se pusieron más grandes de edad, ellos fueron incluidos en estas conversaciones sobre la donación de órgano y como esto ayuda a otros.

“Decidimos como una familia que si las circunstancias trágicas se presentaran, seríamos donantes de órganos y tejido,” dijo Beth. “Tener aquella conversación era tan importante porque cuando Julia murió automáticamente sabíamos que decisión íbamos a tomar.”

La pasión de Beth para la donación de órganos y tejido se amplía más allá de su experiencia personal con su hija. En su vida profesional, ella es la trabajadora social para el departamento de trasplante de corazón en el Centro de Trasplante de Metodista. Allí es donde ella trabaja con recipientes y sus miembros de familia.

“Los recipientes a menudo me preguntarán sobre los sentimientos que la familia de donante puede tener. A causa de mi propia experiencia, puedo decirles que la donación de órgano y tejido da a familias de donante algo positivo para colgar en el medio de su tragedia.”

“Vamos bien en nuestro camino en hacer el Regalos de Julia una realidad,” dijo Beth. “Este proyecto trabaja haciendo la realización de los sueños de Julia – ayudar a otros – de más modos que ella pudiera alguna vez imaginar.”

Para más información sobre la donación de órgano y tejido y el Regalos de Julia, visite www.lifegift.org.



Honoring donors and celebrating life at LifeGift events

1. Gerry Stover, donor mom of **Becky Foshee**, listens to her daughter's heartbeat as it keeps **Kobina Graham** alive. Graham received Becky's heart and left kidney. The reunion of the two families took place at LifeGift on April 7 in Houston.

2. Baylor All Saints Hospital President and CEO **Steve Newton** completes his registration form for the Texas Donor Registry in Fort Worth during National Donate Life Month.

3. From left, donor mom **Linda Lupher** and LifeGift's **Ron Ehrle** and **Deb Powers** accept a proclamation for National Donate Life Month from County Commissioner and liver recipient **Gary Fickes** (second from right) at a monthly meeting of the Tarrant County commissioner's court on April 6.

4. Attendees at the Third Annual "Toadbucket" Nationals Classic Car Show in Lubbock on April 17 prepare to release balloons to celebrate the legacy of **Christopher "Toadbucket" Barnes**, a young boy who saved the lives of four people through organ and tissue donation.

5. West Texas funeral directors learn about organ and tissue donation and recovery at a symposium hosted by LifeGift's West Region on April 14 in Lubbock.

6. *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* columnist **Bob Ray Sanders** speaks to donor family members at the LifeGift Donor Family Memorial Service on March 29 in Fort Worth. Read his column about the event at: www.star-telegram.com/2010/03/30/2078423/organ-transplants-provide-gift.html.

7. A donor memorial located in the garden at Cook Children's Medical Center in Fort Worth pays tribute to young organ and tissue donors who shared their lifesaving gifts.

8. **Dallas Foster**, heart transplant recipient and Vital Volunteer, leads the Donate Life Houston All Star Band during LifeGift's 2nd Annual Celebration of Life in the Texas Medical Center on April 15.



Sound Bites

Southeast Region In January, the *Conroe Courier* interviewed LifeGift's Ken Mireles about organ and tissue donation. The article featured a photo of Ken and promoted the Circle of Life bike ride.

KXLN-TV (Univision affiliate) aired a story about Florencia Quesnel, a 19-year-old waiting for a liver transplant. The story generated multiple calls to LifeGift's Communications Center from people inquiring how to be organ and tissue donors.

Latina Voices, which airs on Houston's PBS channel, interviewed LifeGift's Elvia Valdez and Vital Volunteer Frank Rocha about the importance of organ and tissue donation.

The Copperfield Sun interviewed Dallas Foster, Vital Volunteer and heart transplant recipient, for an article about National Donate Life Month.

West Region Gilbert Esparza, with Power 106 FM in Lubbock, did a segment on LifeGift and discussed how to register to be an organ and tissue donor.

The Texas Transplantation Society included an announcement in its Winter 2010 newsletter about Schawnté Williams-Taylor being promoted to manager of the West Region.

North Region Bob Ray Sanders, a columnist for the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, covered the North Region's Candlelight Memorial on March 29. "The memorial is a simple but elegant tribute to those who have left us and a gracious thank you to their families for their courageous acts," wrote Sanders.

Laura Frnka, director of communications, was quoted in the *Fort Worth Business Press*, about LifeGift's public relations agency of record, The Balcom Agency. The article appeared in the March 29 edition.



LifeGift welcomes new Manager of Organ Recovery for the Southeast Region

There's a new face on the LifeGift management team. Dawn Brim, RN, CPTC, joined the organization in January as manager of organ recovery for the Southeast Region.

Dawn joins LifeGift from Gift of Hope Organ and Tissue Donor Network, based in Itasca, Illinois, just outside of Chicago, where she supervised the day-to-day operations of the organ recovery department. Prior to joining the Gift of Hope in 1993, she worked as a charge nurse at Olympia Field Dialysis and was responsible for pre-transplant patient workups. She began her career as a nurse in the intensive care unit at St. Catherine's Hospital in East Chicago, Indiana.

"I'm enjoying my role at LifeGift and the new team I work with," said Dawn. "I look forward to helping the organ recovery staff save more lives in Texas."

Dawn is the procurement examination chair for the American Board for Transplant Certification and the Association of Organ Procurement Organizations (AOPO) Ethics Committee Co-Chair. She also serves on several United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) committees as the at-large representative, including the Histocompatibility Committee. Most recently she was the UNOS Region 7 Operations representative.

"Dawn's extensive background in organ procurement will further our position as one of the leading organ procurement organizations (OPOs) in the country," said Teresa Shafer, executive vice president and chief operating officer of LifeGift. "She will bring a fresh perspective to our clinical practices and management team. We look forward to her contributions."

HOW CAN I HELP?

LifeGift has brand-new Facebook pages – so if you're already a fan, be sure to re-subscribe at the new sites below.

LifeGift

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/LifeGift/213622479436?ref=ts>

Vital Volunteers

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Houston/LIFEGIFT-Vital-Volunteers/307553542353?ref=ts>

Facebook isn't just a great place to catch up on other people's lives – but to save lives. One new registered donor might save up to 80 people: and you can make it happen with just a few keystrokes. Post about what donation means to you, and ask your friends to "like" us, too.

Be sure to visit www.lifegift.org and join our email list to receive the latest updates and read uplifting stories.





1701 River Run, Suite 300
Fort Worth, Texas 76107

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
FORT WORTH TX
PERMIT NO 311



Communications Center
800-633-6562
www.lifegift.org

Southeast Region
2510 Westridge Street
Houston, Texas 77054
713-523-4438
713-737-8110 fax

North Region
1701 River Run, Suite 300
Fort Worth, Texas 76107
817-870-0060
817-870-2073 fax

West Region
6001 B Spur 327
Lubbock, Texas 79424
806-798-5568
806-798-5572 fax

1200 Wallace Boulevard
Amarillo, Texas 79106
806-351-5890
806-351-5891 fax



Thanks to Flags Across America 2010, Donate Life flags like this one are flying in support of organ and tissue donation in front of LifeGift partner hospitals throughout Texas, including Cook Children's Medical Center in Fort Worth.

See more LifeGift event photos on page 6.

