



## Donor family takes on lifesaving mission



The Gonzales family with heart recipient David Schoolcraft, center.

Signing a donor registration form was not how Houston resident Leonor Gonzales envisioned honoring her 16-year-old son, Santos “Makis” Gonzales, but she knew in her heart it was the right thing to do. After all, her son saved the lives of four people through organ donation when he died tragically on Nov. 16, 2009.

This past fall, Leonor and Santos’ entire family committed to being organ and tissue donors during a registry drive hosted by Santos’ heart recipient. The event raised awareness of donation and generated more than 20 registrants.

The Gonzales family believes the movie, “Seven Pounds,” starring Will Smith, sparked Santos’ desire to become an organ donor. In fact, shortly before he passed away, he told his mother that if anything were to happen to him, he’d want to donate his organs. And he would want to make sure his family would meet the recipients. Leonor is quick to point out that she initially declined the opportunity to donate when

she was approached, but was reminded of the conversation she had with her son.

The Gonzales family credits their decision to Elena Mendoza, Donation Clinical Specialist with LifeGift, for providing reassurance that they would have the chance to meet Santos’ recipients.

While the Gonzales family hopes to meet all of Santos’ recipients, the first person they wanted to meet was the man carrying their son’s heart. They had the opportunity to meet this man, David Schoolcraft, from La Porte, who was in desperate need of a heart transplant. Since the reunion in July, the Gonzales family has bonded with David and considers him a new member of their family.

David said that Santos is a hero to him and no longer takes life for granted. At the same time, David hurts for the Gonzales family because he knows they’ve lost a brother and a son.

Santos’ legacy will never be forgotten because his family made the unselfish choice to see beyond their own personal pain and

grief, helping those waiting on a second chance at life. His memory will no doubt inspire others to give the ultimate gift – the gift of life.

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# Glenda P. Dawson Donate Life – Texas Registry Reaches 1 Million Mark



On Aug. 19, 2010, the Glenda P. Dawson Donate Life – Texas Registry reached a milestone. There are now officially more than 1 million people registered as potential organ and tissue donors in the state of Texas. The registry was named after Texas State Representative Glenda Dawson, the recipient of a kidney from her sister. Dawson passed away in 2006, shortly after the registry went into effect.

Most organ and tissue recoveries come from receiving consent from the legal next of kin. However, with the jump in the registry, recoveries are beginning to be made from registered donors. While this is a very exciting achievement, Texas still lags behind other states. Less than 10 percent of Texans over the age of 18 are registered, and more than 10,000 are waiting for an organ or tissue transplant that could save their lives.

“We are confident that the numbers will continue to grow as Texans are made aware of how easy it is to sign up to save lives,” said Laura Frnka, Director of Communications for LifeGift. You can register at your local Department of Public Safety (DPS) office when applying for or renewing your driver’s license, through the DPS Website, online at [www.DonateLifeTexas.org](http://www.DonateLifeTexas.org) or at the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) when registering your vehicle.

If you have not renewed your driver’s license since 2006, you are probably not on the Glenda P. Dawson Donate Life – Texas Registry, even if you had previously indicated your intent to be donor. You can verify your presence on the registry by visiting the Website.

Signing up for the registry is your official consent to be an organ and tissue donor, and it is a legally binding contract. Please discuss your decision with your family, and encourage them to also make this important commitment.



## Hospital Partners and LifeGift Receive Special Recognition

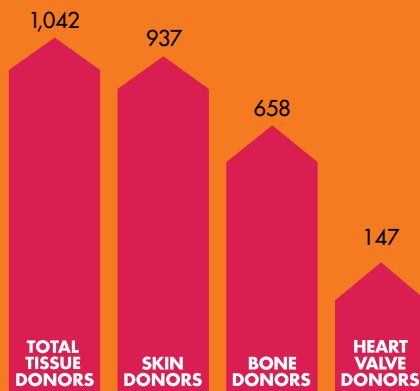
Nine of LifeGift’s hospital partners received Medals of Honor from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for their outstanding performance in organ donation and recovery. These hospitals include:

- Cook Children’s Medical Center, Fort Worth (silver)
- Houston Northwest Medical Center, Houston (silver)
- Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Fort Worth, Fort Worth (silver)
- Conroe Regional Medical Center, Conroe (bronze)
- Memorial Hermann Memorial City, Houston (bronze)
- Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center, Houston (bronze)
- Plaza Medical Center, Fort Worth (bronze)
- St. Luke’s Episcopal Hospital, Houston (bronze)
- Texas Children’s Hospital, Houston (bronze)

LifeGift also received recognition from DHHS with a Medal of Honor and was one of 27 organ procurement organizations across the country to receive recognition.

## LifeGift’s Current Performance

Oct. 1, 2009 – Sept. 30, 2010



**77%**  
ORGAN DONATION  
CONSENT RATE



## INDUSTRY NEWS BRIEF

## New Workplace Partners Join Lifesaving Mission

Two Houston-area entities have joined forces with LifeGift in its lifesaving mission as Workplace Partners. The City of Houston and Shell Federal Credit Union (Shell FCU) are now helping promote organ and tissue donation among their workforces.



On Aug. 17, Houston Mayor **Annis Parker** announced that the City of Houston – an entity of more than 23,000 employees – would become an advocate for donation. She issued a challenge for other large cities to follow suit.

"The City of Houston is home to the largest medical center in the world. We have every reason to be leading the nation in this initiative," said Parker. "It is my hope as the mayor of the fourth largest city that we can encourage other large cities to follow our example and become champions for donation."

Shell FCU – a company of more than 150 people – also signed on as a Workplace Partner. They are committed to promoting organ and tissue donation among their workforces and customers.

"Much of our industry is measured on speed and reducing the waiting time for our customers," said **Jose Rodriguez**, president and CEO of Shell FCU. "We understand firsthand that no one likes to wait in a long line at the bank, let alone for a lifesaving transplant."

LifeGift applauds both the City of Houston and Shell FCU for assisting with its lifesaving venture and looks forward to working with both of them on future projects.

## LEADERSHIP LINE

## Where We Begin & End

by Samuel M. Holtzman III, LifeGift President and CEO



We have just started our new fiscal year and as usual, last year is fading fast in the rear view mirror! We are already focused on the new year ... ready or not.

However, before we go too far down the road, let me say how proud I am of the work we do. I feel privileged to be a part of the team! What a wonderful mission we have and what a rare opportunity we have to serve others and save lives.

LifeGift staff did a tremendous job this past year. There were 283 organ donors and 1,042 tissue donors. We recovered a record number of organs (1,022) from our service area. Combined with the organs our transplant centers imported from other organ procurement organizations (OPOs), together we saved the lives of more than a thousand people. Tens of thousands of others benefited from tissue transplantation.

Fiscal years come and go, but a life that is saved or enhanced through organ and tissue donation has an impact that has nothing to do with a calendar. We all know this and it is the primary reason all of us work at LifeGift. Every day we have a chance to make a positive difference in the lives of so many people.

There are many aspects to a successful organization, but only a few organizations achieve excellence over a long period of time. A consistently high performance and a relentless focus on improvement are two of the characteristics of an excellent OPO. As a team, we have accomplished excellence over the past several years.

## Health Care Heroes Awards

*Houston Business Journal* honored Sam Holtzman and 11 others at the Health Care Heroes awards luncheon on Wednesday, May 19. The event was part of the newspaper's four-day *CelebrateEnterprise* program of business events. Holtzman was recognized in the Administrator category for his skills, dedication and professionalism in the Houston health care arena.



**Hot off the press!**

**Watch your mailbox for the LifeGift 2010 Annual Report/2011 Calendar.**

# Vital Volunteers: Sara Guzman, Linda Murph, Mary Frugé & Brian Gilliam

## The Greatest Gift

### SARA GUZMAN

Southeast Region

Sara's relationship with donation began in 2007 when her husband, Julian, became ill. His doctors told him that he needed a liver transplant and placed him on the waiting list. Sara was his caregiver and support system. After 16 months, they received the call that a liver was waiting for him. Julian made a full recovery and was able to return to work full time with great health.

In December of 2009, he began to have kidney problems. He was evaluated and listed for a kidney transplant. Sara didn't think twice about getting tested to see if she would be a match for her husband. And in March of this year, they found out that she was a match. On July 27, Sara and Julian went into the hospital together and Julian received his wife's gift of life, her kidney.

"I didn't think twice about it. I would do it all over again," Sara said. While the kidney transplant was a success, Julian began to have other complications. Sadly, he passed away on Nov. 1, 2010.



Sara and Julian Guzman

Despite her loss, Sara remains a fierce advocate for donation. She volunteers at The Methodist Hospital and is a star Vital Volunteer with LifeGift. Sara shares her story and the message of donation everywhere she goes. At The Methodist Hospital in Houston, she recently struck up a conversation with a lady who said she would like to register, but didn't know how. "Let me go get my laptop," Sara said. She signed her up on the spot!

## Star Volunteer

### LINDA MURPH

West Region



Linda and Jim Murph had been married for six years when Linda got sick in August of 1999. She started getting really fatigued, and finally went to the doctor. They discovered that she had a deteriorating liver. Within days, Linda's health had declined to the point where she was comatose. Jim was told she only had 11-12 hours to live.

"It was like a dream," he said as he choked up a little. "Finally I just prayed and lifted it up to God." Linda was placed on the waiting list for a new liver, and she didn't have to wait long. A couple of days later, she had her transplant, and she says her health has been "fabulous" ever since.

A few months after her transplant, Linda called LifeGift to ask for information on a support group. She started volunteering that very weekend. She has dedicated many hours representing LifeGift and promoting donation.

"I want everyone signed up to be a donor," Linda said. "It is the greatest gift you will ever give or receive."

## A Giving Heart

**MARY FRUGÉ**

North Region

Sept. 24, 2010, marked the 20-year anniversary of Mary Frugé's heart transplant. After a succession of heart attacks in 1990, Mary was placed on the waiting list. Ten days later, she got the news that a heart was available for her.

Mary and her husband, Ben, had only been married for three years when Mary got sick. Ben is so thankful that his wife's life was saved all those years ago and that they have been able to enjoy so much time together.

Mary said, "There is a reason I am still here. I like to hope it's because I've tried to live a good, decent life and do for others."

She and Ben definitely do for others. They are Vital Volunteers who are committed to educating others about donation. They also participate in The Salvation Army Angel Tree project and volunteer at WestAid, a nonprofit organization that provides food and emergency services to residents on Fort Worth's west side.



Mary and Ben Frugé

## Advocate "FORE" Donation

**BRIAN GILLIAM**

Southeast Region

After suffering with congestive heart failure for years, Brian Gilliam was informed that he would need a heart transplant to live. In October of 2008, while he waited for his transplant, his daughters, Jessica and Jamie, got engaged and moved up their wedding dates.

"They were married 41 days apart," Gilliam said. "I walked both my girls down the aisle and even danced the father/daughter dance with them."

On Nov. 23, 2008, Brian received his new heart at The Methodist Hospital in Houston. He was determined to be able to live a healthy and active life after his transplant. Within four months, he was back on the golf course. He had heard about the U.S. Transplant Games while he was in the hospital, and he wanted to compete.

In July of this year, Brian headed to Madison, Wis., as a part of Team Texas. He was the lone golfer in the group. A total of 20 athletes from Texas won 34 medals; more than any other state!

Brian dedicates much of his time volunteering to promote donation. He is a Vital Volunteer, and he also volunteers at The Methodist Hospital. "This is why I am still here," said Brian. "Every opportunity I have, I promote organ donation."



## HOW CAN I HELP?



### Become a Facebook Fan

Be sure to subscribe at the 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](http://www.lifegift.org) and join our email list to receive the latest updates and read uplifting stories.

## La familia donante personalmente toma la misión de salvar vidas

**F**irmar un formulario de inscripción para la donación de órganos no fue cómo residente de Houston, Leonor Gonzales imaginó honrar su hijo de 16 años de edad, Santos “Makis” Gonzales, pero sintió en el corazón que fue la cosa correcta de hacer. Después de todo, su hijo salvo las vidas de cuatro personas por su regalo de la donación de órganos cuando se murió trágicamente el 16 de noviembre de 2009.

Recientemente, Leonor y la familia entera de Santos se comprometieron en ser donantes de órgano y tejido durante un registro manejado por recipiente del corazón de Santos. El evento aumentó el conocimiento de la donación y engendró a más de 20 donantes registrados.

La familia de Gonzales cree que la película, “Siete Libras” o “Seven Pounds” con el actor norte-americano Will Smith, engendro el deseo de Santos para querer ser un donante de órgano. De hecho, poco antes que murió, le dijo a su madre que si algo debía sucederle a él, él querría donar sus órganos. Y querría asegurarse de que su familia encontraría y conociera a los recipientes. Leonor es rápido a indicar que inicialmente se negó a la oportunidad de donar cuando fue preguntada en el hospital, pero fue recordada de la conversación que ella tuvo con su hijo.

La familia de Gonzales acredita su decisión a Elena Mendoza,

Especialista Clínico de Donación de LifeGift, para proporcionar tranquilidad que tendrían la oportunidad de conocer los recipientes de los regalos de Santos.

Mientras la familia de Gonzales espera conocer los recipientes de todos los órganos de Santos, la primera persona que quisieron conocer fue el hombre que lleva el corazón de su hijo. Tuvieron la oportunidad de conocer a este hombre, David Schoolcraft de La Porte, Texas que estuvo en la necesidad desesperada de un trasplante de corazón. Desde la reunión en julio, la familia de Gonzales ha formalizado una bonita relación con David y lo consideran un nuevo miembro de su familia.

David dice que Santos es un héroe para él y le ha cambiado su vida, pero al mismo tiempo, él siente dolor para la familia de Gonzales porque han perdido un hijo y a un hermano.

El legado de Santos nunca será olvidado porque su familia hizo la decisión generosa para ver más allá de su propio dolor y pena, ayudando a esos que esperan una segunda oportunidad de vivir. Su memoria sin duda hace inspirar a otros en dar el máximo regalo – el regalo de vida.



Leonor Gonzales

## Registro Glenda P. Dawson Done Vida-Texas Alcanza 1 millón



El 19 de agosto de 2010, el Registro de Texas Glenda P. Dawson Done Vida alcanzó un monumento. Hay ahora oficialmente más de un millón de personas registrados como donantes potenciales de órgano y tejido en el estado de Texas. El registro fue nombrado después de representante del estado de Texas Glenda

Dawson, recipiente de un riñón de su hermana. Dawson se murió en 2006, poco después el registro tomo efecto.

La mayoría de recuperaciones de órganos y tejidos vienen del consentimiento de los parientes más cercanos legales del recipiente. Sin embargo, con el salto en el registro, las recuperaciones empiezan a ser hechas de donantes registrados. Mientras esto es un logro muy emocionante, Texas todavía se queda atrás otros estados. Sólo cinco por ciento de tejanos sobre la edad de 18 es registrado

como donante, y más de 10,000 esperan un trasplante de órgano o tejido que podría salvar sus vidas.

“Estamos seguros que los números continuarán aumentando cuando tejanos se dan cuenta que fácil es de inscribirse para salvar vidas,” dice Laura Frnka, Directora de Comunicaciones de LifeGift. Puede registrarte en su oficina local de DPS (Departamento de Seguridad Publica) al solicitar o renovar su licencia de manejar, a través del internet en [www.donevidatexas.org](http://www.donevidatexas.org) o en el Departamento de Automóviles (DMV).

Si usted no ha renovado su licencia de manejar desde 2006, usted probablemente no está en el Registro de Texas Glenda P. Dawson Done Vida, incluso aunque se hubiera indicado anteriormente su intención para ser donante. Puede verificar su presencia en el registro visitando el sitio web en [www.donevidatexas.org](http://www.donevidatexas.org).

Inscribirse para el registro es su consentimiento oficial de ser un donante de órgano y tejido, y es un contrato legal. Por favor de compartir su decisión con su familia, y anímalos también hacer este compromiso importante.

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# Lifesaving Results

The following information details organ and tissue referrals and their sources from Jan. 1, 2010, through Sept. 30, 2010.

Hospital Name	Total Referrals	Organ Donors	Tissue Donors	Hospital Name	Total Referrals	Organ Donors	Tissue Donors
<b>NORTH REGION</b>				Christus St. John Hospital	108	0	6
Baylor All Saints Medical Center at Fort Worth	289	3	4	Clear Lake Regional Medical Center	355	0	15
Baylor Medical Center at Southwest Fort Worth	26	0	1	Cleveland Regional Medical Center	55	0	6
Baylor Medical Center Surgical Hospital	1	0	0	Colorado-Fayette Medical Center	11	0	0
Baylor Regional Medical Center at Grapevine	245	4	4	Columbus Community Hospital	19	0	0
Cook Children's Medical Center	114	13	8	Conroe Regional Medical Center	323	2	15
Ethicus Hospital Grapevine	43	0	0	Cornerstone Hospital of Houston	63	0	0
Glen Rose Medical Center	19	0	0	Cornerstone Hospital of Houston - Clear Lake	47	0	0
Hamilton General Hospital	34	0	1	Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Department	3	0	1
Healthsouth City View Rehabilitation Hospital	2	0	0	Cypress Creek EMS	170	0	2
Healthsouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Fort Worth	3	0	0	Cypress Fairbanks Medical Center Hospital	176	1	7
Home Death	2	0	0	Doctor's Hospital - Tidwell	71	0	1
Huguley Memorial Medical Center	150	1	4	Dubois Hospital of Houston	12	0	0
JPS Health Network	526	24	23	East Houston Regional Medical Center	187	0	6
Kindred Hospital Arlington	41	0	0	East Texas Medical Center - Crockett	69	0	1
Kindred Hospital Fort Worth	34	0	0	East Texas Medical Center - Jacksonville	2	0	0
Kindred Hospital Mansfield	54	0	0	East Texas Medical Center - Trinity	13	0	0
Kindred Hospital Tarrant County Fort Worth Southwest	50	0	0	El Campo Memorial Hospital	24	0	1
Lake Granbury Medical Center	62	0	2	Fort Bend County EMS	4	0	0
LifeCare Hospitals of Fort Worth	46	0	0	Grimes St. Joseph Health Center	52	0	0
Medical Center of Arlington	391	3	17	Gulf Coast Medical Center	46	0	1
Methodist Mansfield Medical Center	122	2	14	Harris County Emergency Service District #1	24	0	0
North Hills Hospital	181	0	6	Harris County Medical Examiner	959	0	9
North Texas Community Hospital	19	0	0	HealthSouth - Houston Rehabilitation Institute	21	0	0
Palo Pinto General Hospital	58	0	0	HealthSouth for Specialized Surgery	1	0	0
Plaza Medical Center of Fort Worth	219	6	5	HealthSouth Rehab Hospital - Humble	2	0	0
Regency Hospital Company	30	0	1	HealthSouth Rehab Hospital of North Houston	9	0	0
Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office (Parker, Denton Counties)	2	0	0	Heritage at Tomball Nursing Home	8	0	0
Texas Health Arlington Memorial Hospital	552	3	8	Home Death	10	0	2
Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Azle	59	0	5	Houston Northwest Medical Center	353	6	22
Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Cleburne	81	0	2	Huntsville Memorial Hospital	80	0	1
Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Fort Worth	898	15	31	Icon Hospital	61	0	1
Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Hurst-Euleuss-Bedford	242	1	5	Jackson Healthcare Center	16	0	1
Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Southwest Fort Worth	112	0	2	Kindred Hospital - Bay Area	57	0	0
Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Stephenville	33	1	0	Kindred Hospital - Houston NW	85	0	1
Texas Health Harris Methodist Southlake Center For Diagnostics	2	0	0	Kindred Hospital - Medical Center	57	0	0
USMD Surgical Hospital of Arlington	1	0	0	Kingwood Medical Center	232	1	9
Weatherford Regional Medical Center	86	0	3	Lavaca Medical Center	19	0	0
White Settlement Nursing Center	1	0	0	Liberty-Dayton Hospital, Inc.	28	0	3
Wise Regional Health System	94	0	5	Lyndon B. Johnson Hospital	244	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,924</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>151</b>	M.D. Anderson Cancer Center	652	0	1
<b>SOUTHEAST REGION</b>				Madison St. Joseph Health Center	26	0	0
Acuity Hospital of Houston	41	0	0	Manvel EMS	1	0	0
Angleton-Danbury Medical Center	34	0	3	Matagorda General Hospital	53	0	1
Apex Hospice of Katy	17	0	0	Meadowbrook Rehab Hospital	3	0	0
Atascocita Fire Department	1	0	0	Memorial Hermann Continuing Care - Southwest	4	0	0
Atrium Medical Center	75	0	1	Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital	181	1	8
Bayshore Medical Center	318	2	14	Memorial Hermann Memorial City Hospital	367	2	22
Bayside Community Hospital	13	0	0	Memorial Hermann Northeast Hospital	254	0	15
Beacon Health - Westchase	1	0	0	Memorial Hermann Northwest Hospital	341	0	11
Bellville General Hospital	31	0	2	Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital	325	0	13
Ben Taub General Hospital	517	21	19	Memorial Hermann Southwest Hospital	497	1	16
Brazosport Regional Health System	99	0	6	Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Hospital	41	0	3
Christus Jasper Memorial Hospital	45	0	1	Memorial Hermann - Texas Medical Center	1,051	51	77
Christus St. Catherine Hospital	105	0	7	Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Hospital	208	2	12
				Memorial Medical Center - Livingston	79	0	5
				Memorial Medical Center - Lufkin	231	2	8
				Memorial Medical Center- Port La Vaca	31	0	0
				Memorial Medical Center - San Augustine	27	0	0
				Memorial Specialty Hospital - Lufkin	36	0	0

Hospital Name	Total Referrals	Organ Donors	Tissue Donors
Methodist Hospital	678	7	25
Methodist Sugar Land Hospital	201	1	5
Methodist Willowbrook Hospital	188	0	4
Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center	8	0	1
Montgomery County Hospital District - EMS	285	0	5
Nacogdoches Medical Center	113	0	1
Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital	152	2	5
Nexus Specialty Hospital - Shenandoah	22	0	0
North Cypress Medical Center	227	2	14
Oak Bend Hospital	157	0	4
Palacios Community Medical Center	11	0	0
Park Plaza Hospital	78	0	1
Patients Medical Center	37	0	1
Pearland Emergency Center	1	0	0
Pearland EMS	6	0	0
Plaza Specialty Hospital	38	0	0
Reliant Rehabilitation Hospital North Houston	2	0	0
Rice District Community Hospital	12	0	1
Sabine County Hospital	9	0	0
San Jacinto Methodist Hospital	293	0	10
Scott & White Hospital - Brenham	22	0	0
Select Specialty - Houston Heights	79	0	1
Select Specialty - Houston Medical Center	47	0	2
Select Specialty Hospital West	24	0	2
Shelby Regional Medical Center	55	0	0
Solara Hospital Conroe	33	0	0
Spring Branch Medical Center	70	0	1
St. Anthony's Hospital	15	0	0
St. Joseph Medical Center	264	1	6
St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital	628	2	24
St. Luke's Lakeside Hospital	2	0	0
St. Luke's Sugar Land Hospital	73	0	0
St. Luke's The Woodlands Hospital	101	2	6
Sweeney Community Hospital	21	0	0
Texas Children's Hospital	143	5	6
Texas Specialty Hospital	23	0	0
Tomball Regional Medical Center	286	1	10
Triumph Hospital Baytown	23	0	1
Triumph Hospital Central Houston	27	0	0
Triumph Hospital Clearlake	98	0	3
Triumph Hospital East Houston	57	0	0
Triumph Hospital Heights	39	0	2
Triumph Hospital North Houston	50	0	0
Triumph Hospital Northwest	52	0	1
Triumph Hospital Southwest	163	0	3
Triumph Hospital Tomball	38	0	0
Triumph Town & Country Hospital	33	0	1
Tyler County Hospital	26	0	0
University General Hospital	9	0	0
University Place Nursing Center	7	0	0
West Houston Medical Center	268	2	8
Winnie Community Hospital	10	0	0
Woman's Hospital of Texas	99	0	0
Woodland Heights Medical Center	100	0	0
Yoakum Community Hospital	18	0	0
<b>Southeast Total</b>	<b>15,302</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>513</b>

**WEST REGION**

Anson General Hospital	14	0	0
Ballinger Memorial Hospital District	9	0	0
Baptist St. Anthony's Hospital	258	2	9
Brownfield Regional Medical Center	19	0	1
Childress Regional Medical Center	28	0	0
Chillicothe Hospital	2	0	0
Cochran Memorial Hospital	2	0	0
Cogdell Memorial Hospital	22	0	2

Hospital Name	Total Referrals	Organ Donors	Tissue Donors
Collingsworth General Hospital	8	0	0
Concho County Hospital	5	0	0
Coon Memorial Hospital	13	0	0
Covenant Hospital - Levelland	25	0	0
Covenant Hospital - Plainview	39	0	2
Covenant Medical Center - Lubbock	545	4	20
Covenant Specialty Hospital	55	0	0
Covenant Woman and Children - Lakeside	104	0	1
Crosbyton Clinic Hospital	15	0	0
Edward Abraham's Memorial Nursing Home	2	0	0
Fisher County Hospital	6	0	0
Golden Plains Community Hospital	29	0	0
Grace Medical Center Lubbock	10	0	0
Hamlin Memorial Hospital	4	0	0
Hansford County Hospital District	13	0	0
Hardeman County Hospital	10	0	0
Haskell Memorial Hospital	19	0	0
Hemphill County Hospital	8	0	0
Hereford Regional Medical Center	15	0	0
Home Death - Amarillo	2	0	1
Knox County Hospital	9	0	0
Lamb Healthcare Center	25	0	1
Lubbock County Medical Examiner	2	0	0
Lubbock Heart Hospital	68	0	4
Lubbock Precinct 1 Jim Hanson	2	0	0
Lynn County Hospital	5	0	0
Mangold Memorial Hospital	11	0	0
Martin County Hospital District	1	0	0
Medical Arts Hospital	14	0	0
Memorial Hospital - Seminole	11	0	1
Memorial Nursing and Rehab Center	1	0	0
Mitchell County Hospital	16	0	1
Moore County Hospital District	28	0	1
Muleshoe Area Medical Center	18	0	0
North Runnels Hospital	4	0	0
Northwest Texas Hospital	272	7	18
Ochiltree General Hospital	21	0	0
Odyssey Healthcare - Amarillo	1	0	1
Odyssey Healthcare	1	0	0
Pampa Regional Medical Center	44	0	3
Parkview Hospital	2	0	0
Parmer County Community Hospital	8	0	0
Permian Regional Medical Center	17	0	0
Plains Memorial Hospital	7	0	0
Plum Creek Hospital	27	0	0
Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital	35	0	1
Scenic Mountain Medical Center	82	0	3
Schleicher County Medical Center	2	0	1
Shamrock General Hospital	6	0	0
Southwest Regional Skilled Nursing Center	17	0	0
Stamford Memorial Hospital	6	0	0
Stonewall Memorial Hospital	5	0	0
Swisher Memorial Hospital	11	0	0
Texas Specialty Hospital - Lubbock	1	0	0
Throckmorton County Memorial	6	0	0
Triumph Hospital Amarillo	28	0	0
Trustpoint Hospital	5	0	0
University Medical Center	549	5	20
V.A. Medical Center - Amarillo	1	0	0
V.A. Medical Center - Big Spring	9	0	0
Wilbarger General Hospital	29	0	1
Yoakum County Hospital	21	0	0
<b>West Total</b>	<b>2,709</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>22,935</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>756</b>



## Honoring donors and celebrating life at LifeGift events



**1.** Vital Volunteers in the Southeast Region recently distributed handmade blankets to patients at The Methodist Hospital waiting for lifesaving organ transplants on National Make A Difference Day.

**2.** The Lone Star Circle of Life Bike Tour began on Oct. 23 in Mansfield and ended eight days and 556 miles later in Waco. The purpose of the event was to raise awareness of the need for lifesaving donations of blood, marrow, organs and tissues. Each day a rider rode in honor of someone whose life has been touched by donation.

**3.** This fall, Community Tissue Services (CTS), the tissue recovery agency for the North Region, came to the LifeGift offices in Houston to meet with all three shifts of the Communications Center staff. CTS issued a challenge: The Communications Center specialist with the highest consent rate for the fourth quarter will win a trip to Dayton, Ohio for the grand opening of the CTS tissue processing facility.

**4.** Community Tissue Services' **Nicole Mumbower** (second from left) joined LifeGift's **Rusty Peace, Stacey Alford** and **Tasha Horton** at the annual Dakota Lane Johnston Chili Cook-Off in Fort Worth. Dakota saved five lives through the gift of organ donation when he died in 2008.

**5.** Miss Tarrant County 2011 **Megan Clark** poses with **Francesca Weisiger** (left) and **Heidi Peterson** in November at High Ridge Church's Holiday Market event in Fort Worth. With organ donation as her platform, she signed up to be a volunteer with LifeGift and will attend events to promote donation.

**6.** Left to right, Vital Volunteers **Linda Person, Linda Lupher** and **Byrolyn Hill** represent LifeGift at the Fort Worth Police Department Health Fair on Sept. 18.

**7.** Vital Volunteers **Gary** (center) and **Linda Lupher** pose with actor and transplant recipient **Larry Hagman** at the 2010 U.S. Transplant Games (July 30 - Aug. 4). The Luphers also served as donor family liaisons for the event.

**8.** Nearly 20 **Team Texas** members represented the Lone Star State at the 2010 U.S. Transplant Games, held July 30 - Aug. 4 in Madison, Wis. More than 1,000 athletes, all recipients of lifesaving organ or bone marrow transplants, competed in 13 athletic events.

## El banco del teléfono de Univisión contesta la llamada

Como parte de Día Nacional para la Concientización de la Donación en los Grupos Minoritarios, el Departamento de Comunicaciones organizó un banco de llamadas en Univisión, KXLN-Houston.

Más de 350 llamadas fueron contestadas entre los noticieros del 5 y 10 de la tarde. El éxito del banco de llamadas fue atribuido a los más de 30 voluntarios, que consistieron en empleados de LifeGift, Voluntarios Esenciales también conocidos como “Vital Volunteers” y nuestros nuevos amigos de socio de lugar de trabajo, el banco Shell Federal Credit Union. “Para decir que el banco de llamadas tuvo un gran éxito sería una subestimación- fue un mega éxito” dijo Elvia Valdez, Coordinadora de relaciones públicas.

Cada persona que llamo al banco de llamadas recibió los formularios de registración y hechos sobre la donación de órganos y tejidos.

## Texas Children’s Hospital Physician Receives National Recognition for Support of Organ Donation

Dr. Carmen C. Cosio, a pediatric intensivist at Texas Children’s Hospital in Houston, was recently named a Regional Champion by the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) for her outstanding dedication and commitment to organ and tissue donation. The award, presented during the 6th National Learning Congress in Grapevine, Texas, was given to only 10 other individuals across the country. LifeGift nominated Dr. Cosio for the award.

“Carmen is a tremendous advocate for organ and tissue donation – both among her peers and within the transplant community as a whole,” said Sam Holtzman, president and CEO of LifeGift. “Her constant support of donation has resulted in many lives saved or enhanced. She’s an exemplary role model for others in the field to follow.”

According to HRSA, Dr. Cosio and her fellow honorees were selected because “they are making a difference and creating a positive impact in the field of organ, tissue and cornea donation and transplantation. Their dedication, energy and leadership provide a direct and lasting benefit to donor families, people in need of transplantation and transplant recipients.”

In addition to her role at Texas Children’s, Dr. Cosio is an associate professor of pediatrics at

Baylor College of Medicine. She completed her pediatric residency at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami and did her subspecialty training in pediatric critical care at Baylor.

It was during her fellowship training that Dr. Cosio developed an interest in organ donation and organ donor management. She currently is the medical director of organ donation and the chair of the organ donation and transplantation subcommittee at Texas Children’s Hospital. She also serves on the LifeGift Advisory Committee and has a strong educational commitment to organ donation at a local and national level.



Dr. Carmen C. Cosio and Sam Holtzman



Kidney recipient Stephanie Cart, left, and heart recipient Violet Brabham

## St. Luke’s Episcopal Hospital Unveils Wall of Heroes

On Monday, Sept. 27, St. Luke’s Episcopal Hospital unveiled its Wall of Heroes – a tribute to patients and their families who gave others a second chance at life through organ donation.

The donor wall is the first of its kind in any Houston-area hospital and is designed to provide comfort to those who have made the difficult decision for a loved one and to provide hope for those in need of an organ transplant.

“We are grateful to our colleagues at St. Luke’s for taking the Wall of Heroes concept and making it a reality,” said **Kim Davis**, Managing Director of Hospital Services, Southeast Region, for LifeGift. “It is a simple, elegant and moving tribute to organ donors.”

The Wall of Heroes features donors from all walks of life who vary in age and ethnicity, demonstrating that everyone can be a donor and save lives. The initial Wall of Heroes showcases the photos and first names of 11 organ donors.

## Sound Bites

**Southeast Region** In June, *The Katy Times* interviewed Vital Volunteer Aaron Daniels, who is waiting for a kidney transplant, about his “meet and greet” with Amobi Okoye, Houston Texans’ defensive tackle.

*The Bayshore Sun* did a front-page story about the Gonzales family, a Houston-area family who made the unselfish decision to donate their son’s organs when he died tragically in November 2009.

Jesse Buentello, who recently received a heart transplant at St. Luke’s Episcopal Hospital, appeared on “Hola Houston,” a public affairs show on KRIV-TV (Houston’s FOX affiliate) to promote donation among the Hispanic community.

The *Houston Chronicle* ran a front-page article about organ and tissue donation, which included a sidebar about how to register. Andy Benavides, Vital Volunteer and heart recipient, was interviewed.

**North Region** Jorge Lopez, donor father, appeared on the public affairs show, “Via 23” KUVN-TV (DFW’s Univision affiliate), in August to raise awareness for National Minority Organ Donor Awareness Day.

The *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* did a front-page story on Vital Volunteer Mary Frugé and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her heart transplant.

*DFW Reporting*, an online broadcast portal for positive news, aired a story on Taylor Storch, a DFW-area teen who was an organ donor. Ron Ehrle, LifeGift, was interviewed.

**West Region** KAMR-TV (FOX affiliate in Lubbock) aired a story about the Torres family who work tirelessly as donor advocates in West Texas.

*The Canyon News* did a front-page article about organ donation and the registry. Laura Frnka, LifeGift, was quoted in the article.

KVII-TV (ABC’s affiliate in Amarillo) did a segment about the Donate Life – Texas Registry. Mia Hunter, LifeGift, was interviewed.



### Pat Rubin Promoted to Executive Vice President

Pat Rubin, chief financial officer for LifeGift, recently was promoted to executive vice president.

“Pat’s leadership in her role as CFO has contributed to LifeGift’s success as one of the nation’s leading organ procurement organizations,” said Sam Holtzman, president and CEO of LifeGift.

“She is a highly motivated professional, who has demonstrated not only her commitment, but her sound and astute judgment when it comes to making financial decisions for the organization. This promotion is well-deserved and I look forward to seeing Pat’s contributions in this enhanced leadership position.”

Rubin, who joined LifeGift in 1997, became a certified public accountant in Texas in 1985. Her background includes more than 20 years in leadership roles in healthcare organizations and three years in public accounting.

She received her bachelor of science degree in accounting from Rider College in Lawrenceville, New Jersey.



### Marc Casarez Promoted to Tissue Program Supervisor

Marc Casarez, who joined LifeGift’s West Region office in July 2008, recently was promoted to tissue program supervisor.

“Marc’s skill set and experience will help round out our leadership team in the West,” said Schawnté Williams-Taylor, managing director of LifeGift’s West Region. “He will play a

strategic role in ensuring that LifeGift maximizes tissue donation opportunities, enhancing and saving the lives of others.”

In his new position, Casarez will be responsible for planning, development, implementation and evaluation of the West Region in areas of tissue recovery, data management and relationships with community partners and vendors.

Casarez graduated from Texas Tech University with a bachelor of science degree in biology and a minor in chemistry in 2007.

### LifeGift Staff Members Earn CTBS Certification

Six LifeGift staff members recently earned their Certified Tissue Banking Specialist (CTBS) certification. These individuals completed a rigorous testing process, which demonstrated their proficiency in the field of tissue banking. The areas tested included tissue recovery, processing, distribution and quality assurance. Congratulations to:

- Sheila Buena, Quality Assurance Coordinator, Southeast Region
- Marc Casarez, Tissue Program Supervisor, West Region
- Darryl Chance, Tissue Donation Specialist, Southeast Region
- Kim Davis, Managing Director of Hospital Services, Southeast Region
- Tammy Haynes, Organ & Tissue Quality Assurance Specialist, Southeast Region
- Russell Roberts, Tissue Donation Specialist, Southeast Region



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On Tuesday, Oct. 5, LifeGift, along with Texas Organ Sharing Alliance and Southwest Transplant Alliance, hosted an ice cream social and registry drive for Senate and House staffers at the State Capitol. More than 170 staffers came by to learn about donation and to sign up on the Glenda P. Dawson Donate Life – Texas Registry. The three organ procurement organizations held the event as state lawmakers prepare to head into a legislative session in January 2011.

See more LifeGift event photos on page 9.

