

## We are here for you

In addition to sending you a letter about the outcome of your loved one's donation, our Donor Family Services Specialists will remain in periodic contact with you. We are available for information, support and resources for as long as you wish.

In our commitment to the legacies of those who donate life and to their families, we also provide ongoing opportunities for you to connect with our Gift of Hope team, other donor families and advocates.



**Karina Jaramillo**  
*life-saving organ donor*

"We did what we knew she would want us to do. So in her last selfless acts before she passed, my sister donated her two kidneys and her liver. She has saved three lives through donation."

- Lilly Jaramillo-Svec, Karina's sister

## Discussing donation with Gift of Hope

If your loved one is medically eligible, you may receive a call about tissue donation or speak to us at the hospital about organ donation.

Please answer that important call and take some time to discuss the opportunity for donation.

If you are considering donation but have not heard from Gift of Hope, call us at **800/360-4301**.

Scan the QR code below or visit [giftofhope.org/how-donation-works](https://giftofhope.org/how-donation-works) to learn more.



## The Gift of Organ, Eye & Tissue Donation



**Kameryn Rasberry**  
*heart recipient*

Your loved one may have the opportunity to create a legacy of life-giving generosity by becoming an organ, eye & tissue donor.



## Organ, eye & tissue donation changes lives

Perhaps you know someone who was on dialysis and received a new kidney, or had surgery for a torn ligament, a bone transplant to avoid amputation, a heart valve surgery or a spinal fusion surgery. They were helped by an organ or tissue donor.

Donation may help your family, too. It can be healing to know that your loved one's gifts have saved or helped others and that they have left a generous legacy after their passing.

Gift of Hope Organ & Tissue Donor Network is the not-for-profit organization that coordinates organ and tissue donation with hospitals, supports families of donors and provides public education on donation in Illinois and northwest Indiana.



**Izaiah Francheschi**  
*life-saving organ donor*

"I know that this is what my son would have wanted me to do. His loving and giving personality helped me with this decision. Think of the others whose lives can be saved through organ and tissue donation."

- Irma Francheschi, Izaiah's mother



**Suzie Sturm**  
*liver transplant recipient*

Thanks to a selfless donor,  
Suzie was given more time to live.



"The gift of donation is two-fold.  
It's hope for those waiting and  
it's healing for those who have lost."

- Suzie Sturm

## How donation works

When someone passes away, Gift of Hope determines if they can become an organ or tissue donor.

A representative from Gift of Hope may contact their close family members to discuss the process and answer any questions.

Gift of Hope gathers more information about the potential donor using a health questionnaire, medical records and lab tests.

Then, organ or tissue recovery surgery is scheduled, working closely with the hospital or coroner and keeping the family informed.

## Planning a service after donation

Gift of Hope will work closely with your funeral home to ensure that you may hold the type of funeral or service your family has been planning, and that donation can still occur. There is no cost to the donor's family or estate for donation and every donor's dignity is preserved throughout the donation process.

Talk with your funeral director about ways your loved one's gift of donation may be honored in their end-of-life services.



**Daniel Runyan**  
*life-enhancing tissue donor*

"I am so thankful that he made the decision to be a donor. This experience of being a donor wife has been so amazingly comforting to not only me, but to my family, Dan's family and our friends because of everybody that has benefited."

- Heather Runyan, Dan's wife