

Donor families and transplant recipients often find comfort in hearing from each other. A simple card, note, or letter can provide significant emotional uplift.



Next Steps:

- 1 LifeNet Health Donor Family Services will review your correspondence to ensure confidentiality.
- 2 Your correspondence will then be forwarded to the clinical transplant coordinator at the transplant center.
- 3 The transplant center will forward your correspondence on to the recipient(s).

Due to the steps listed above, please allow additional mailing time for your correspondence to reach the recipient(s) and/or their families.

Thank you for helping others by sharing the gift of life.



HEALING THE SPIRIT
healingthespirit.org

1864 Concert Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23453
Phone: 800.847.7831



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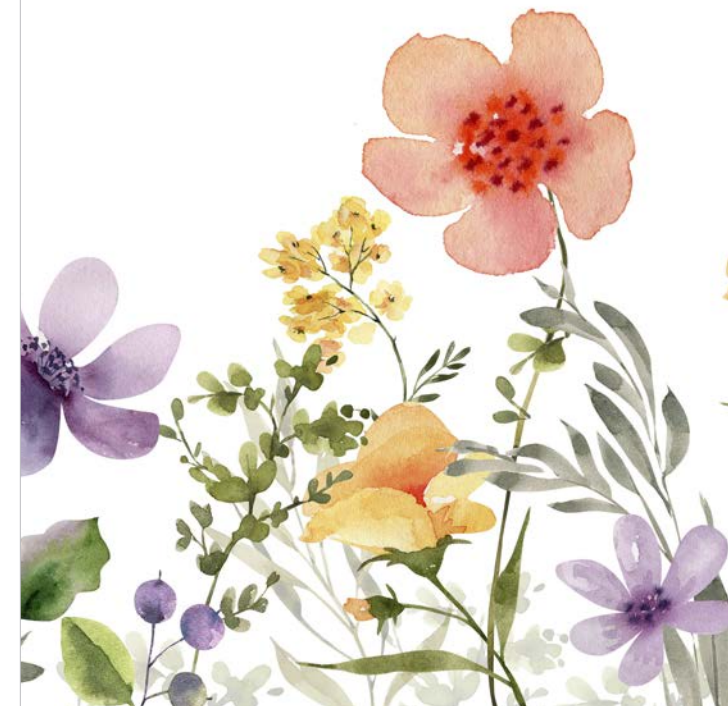
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WRITING TO Transplant Recipients and Their Families

Share your feelings with your loved one's transplant recipient.



HEALING THE SPIRIT



Corresponding with Your Loved One's Transplant Recipient(s)

- 1 Write your first and last name, the donor's full name, and the date of donation on a separate piece of paper. This information is for reference purposes only and will not be sent with your correspondence.
- 2 Address your correspondence to "Transplant Recipient(s)" and specify the organ(s) donated. You can identify yourself as a donor family member or share your name if you wish.
- 3 If you want to share your contact information, include it in your letter to the recipient.
- 4 **Mail to:**
LifeNet Health
1864 Concert Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23453
Attention: Donor Family Services
- 5 LifeNet Health will forward your letter to the transplant center, which will then send it to the recipient(s), maintaining confidentiality.

Information to Include in Your Communication

Talk About Yourself and Your Loved One:

- Describe your loved one:
What kind of person were they?
Did they work? Have children?
- Your/their job or occupation.
- Your family situation (spouse, children, grandchildren).
- Your/their hobbies or interests.
- The state in which you live.
- Since the religion of the recipient's family is unknown, please consider this when making religious comments.

Talk About Your Donation Experience:

- Use simple language.
- Explain how the donation has helped you cope with your loss.
- Describe what has happened in your life since the donation.

Closing Your Card or Letter:

- If you wish to remain confidential, sign your **first name only**.
- Do not reveal the name of the hospital where your loved one died.

Will I Hear From the Transplant Recipients?

You may or may not hear from the transplant recipient. Many are grateful to receive correspondence, but might find it overwhelming.

Some recipients prefer not to write, others may correspond later when they feel ready. Just as some donor families choose to remain private, so do some recipients.

Understand that everyone processes experiences differently; some can share openly, while others may not.

It might take months or even years for a recipient to feel comfortable writing back. Keep this in mind and communicate sensitively.

