

A guide for saying "Thank You for the Gift of Life" to your donor family.

## Tips to Corresponding with Your Donor Family

- Address your card or letter to "Donor Family"
- Identify yourself only by the organ(s) that you received. For example: heart recipient, kidney recipient, kidney-pancreas recipient, etc.
- On a <u>separate piece of paper</u>, write your full name and the date of your transplant so that LifeLink can make sure it goes to the correct donor family. This will not be sent with your letter.
- Mail your letter or card to:

LifeLink of Georgia ATTN: Letter of Thanks 2875 Northwoods Parkway Norcross, Georgia 30071

## Information You May Want to Include

Talk about yourself:

- Your job or occupation
- Your family (spouse, children, grandchildren)
- Your hobbies or interests
- Since the faith beliefs for your donor's family are not known, consider this when making religious comments

## Talk about your experience:

- Use simple language.
- Recognize the donor family and thank them for their gift.
- Describe how long you waited for the transplant and what this was like for you and your family.
- Explain how the transplant has improved or changed your health and your life.

## **Closing Your Card or Letter**

- Sign with your first name only. Do not give your address, city, phone number or the name of the transplant center or your doctor.
- Do not reveal your address, city, phone number, physician or the name of the hospital where you were transplanted.

Remember, if writing your thoughts or feelings is too difficult, a simple Sympathy or Thank You card would also mean a great deal to the donor family.

For more information and sample letters please visit:

www.LifeLinkFoundation.org/SayThankYou