Family Care After Donation

Donor Network of Arizona offers support for donor families who have been part of the decision of generosity to share life with others through the gift of donation. DNA strives to address the special needs and circumstances of each family through coordinating donor family and recipient communication and providing opportunities for donor families to memorialize their loved ones. Here are some of the support services, activities, and resources DNA provides donor families:

- Celebration of Life - An annual picnic event celebrating donor families.
- Coordination of correspondence and meetings between donor families and recipients.
- Quilt Pinning Ceremonies
- Bereavement Materials
- Memory Cards
- Donate Life Arizona Wall of Life
- Volunteer Opportunities

There is also a portion of our website dedicated to caring for our donor families. Go to www.dnaz.org/donor-families to learn more about our Donor Family After-Care.

Lives are renewed through donation, while, the decision to share the gift of life invites and grows generosity and compassion in our world. We at DNA want to do everything we can to support donor families every step of the way.

2018 Generosity in Arizona

- 283 Organ Donors
- 1,417 Tissue Donors
- 14 Birth Tissue Donors
- 913 Cornea Recipients

294,142 Arizonans were added to the DonateLifeAZ Registry.
779 lives were SAVED.

"We make the most of life through the gift of organ and tissue donation"
**Donor Family Spotlight**

**Jesus Moreno, Donor Father**

*Pictured: Mikaela Moreno*

Q: **What has been your experience with organ, cornea and tissue donation?**

Before our daughter’s passing, I was in the dark about donation. Unfortunately, it took my daughter’s passing to realize what donation was all about. So much work and time goes into the process before, during and after the recovery. It was a real eye opener for my wife and me to go through an experience no parent should go through. It was touching and moving, and it opened the door to promote donation and carry on our daughter’s legacy because she had signed up to be an organ donor.

Q: **How has donation impacted your family after your daughter became a donor?**

It has given us comfort knowing her organs live on through four people, and that our daughter is still alive in some manner, in another person. It’s beautiful to us that she’s still around. It has affected us, including our loved ones and our son who lost his sister. He knows the importance of organ donation. My daughter was selfless when she was alive. We promote that it’s beneficial for people who are on the organ waiting list. It’s a precious gift you can give to others, and it speaks highly of the person who wants to be an organ donor.

Q: **Tell us about your experience with the after care program at Donor Network?**

The people in this organization are caring and wonderful. Some of them have experienced donation directly. Every aspect of Donate Life is wonderful. From all the after care, interviews and talking to people - even the volunteer meetings - we learn something, and it continues to grow our knowledge on organ donation and how we can promote it. They’re really caring during the grieving process. They kept reaching out to us and seeing how we’re doing. We attended the quilt pinning ceremony they have to honor loved ones, and we provided a little patch for the quilt. We provided pictures for a memorial book, and our daughter is on the Wall of Life on www.DNAZ.org.

Q: **If there’s a message that you’d like to send to a physician or hospital staff, what was one thing you’d like to send to them about organ donation and the care you received at the hospital?**

Thank you for caring for and giving respect to my daughter, and treating her with so much kindness. That’s something I really wish I could’ve said to the physicians, which we never got a chance to do. Even though as a parent you want the last shred of hope for something to happen - a miracle - but the doctors had a role that day. They fulfilled my daughter’s wish to be an organ donor and I want to say thank you to them for doing that, for helping my daughter’s story continue.