

CORE CONNECTIONS A PLEDGE FOR LIFE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Message from the CEO
- What's New
- Feature Story
- Hospital Development
- Volunteer Corner
- Did You Know
- Multicultural Outreach Program
- External Partner Special Recognition Award
- Career Moves
- Upcoming Events



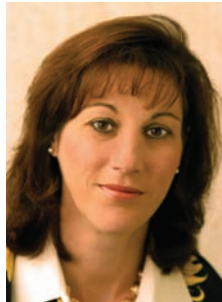
A Donate Life Organization

MISSION

The Center for Organ Recovery & Education (CORE) is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting donation, education, and research for the purpose of saving and improving the quality of life through organ, tissue, and cornea transplantation.

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Susan Stuart, Center for Organ Recovery & Education CEO



Those of us whose lives are forever changed by organ, tissue and cornea donation understand all too well that seeds of grief and sorrow grow into flowers of hope and inspiration. Spreading that message to people who haven't experienced the impact of donation is one reason CORE will once again sponsor a memorial floragraph for the Donate Life float at the 124th Rose Parade on New Year's Day. We are proud to play a role in the promotion of organ, tissue and cornea donation on a national stage. We believe that Donate Life's floragraph program not only puts a human face on the cause of organ, tissue and cornea donation, but also provides us with a compelling way to honor the legacy of donors. This year, the family of Christopher Hershberger, a 17-year old organ donor from Greenville, PA, will create a likeness of him out of flowers. Christopher was an active and fun-loving 17-year-old boy with Down's syndrome who died in January of 2012 after a sudden illness. His parents believed a boy who was so full of life had to pass that gift on to others. Christopher donated his liver, heart valves, kidneys and pancreas to enhance the lives of four other people. Christopher's likeness will be one of 72 floragraphs to adorn the Donate Life float in the Rose Parade. Each one, a donor from across the country. Each one, a seed of sorrow that has flowered into hope for transplant patients and inspiration for others to make A Pledge for Life.

WHAT'S NEW

CORE Named One of "Pittsburgh's Top Workplaces"

CORE has been named one of "Pittsburgh's Top Workplaces" according to a new survey by WorkplaceDynamics, LLP, a leading research firm on organizational health and employee engagement. The Top Workplaces are determined based solely on employee feedback. "At CORE, our mission is to spread the message about the importance of organ, tissue and cornea donation," said Susan Stuart, president and CEO of CORE. "We know that we cannot further this mission without our dedicated employees who work tirelessly every day to share this important message with the public. Our employees are our most valuable resource, and we strive to make CORE a workplace environment that rewards talent, helps employees achieve their professional goals, and provides an inspiring culture." Headquartered in Pittsburgh, CORE offers numerous benefits for full-time employees, including employer provided health, vision and dental coverage; short and long-term disability; paid time off; and a generous retirement plan. The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette published the complete list of Top Workplaces on Thursday, October 25, 2012. For more information about the Top Workplaces lists and WorkplaceDynamics, please visit www.topworkplaces.com and www.workplacedynamics.com.



STATISTICS

National Waiting List: 116,527

CORE Waiting List: 2,396

- Every 10 minutes another name is added to the waiting list.
- On average, 18 people will pass each day waiting for their life saving transplant.
- 90% of Americans say they support donation, yet only 30% actually know the essential steps to take to be a donor.
- One organ and tissue donor can save 8 lives and enhance the lives of more than 50 individuals.

DONOR FAMILY & RECIPIENT MEETING



Recipient, Matisse Reid was able to meet her donor's family for the first time this past October. Jodee Reid, Mother, said "Words can not describe how wonderful the family is".

FEATURE STORY



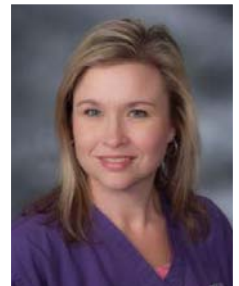
Heather Chestney, Donor Family and Recipient Family

It all began in April 1993 when my dad was told he had a rare lung disease and only 10% of his right lung was functioning. His lung specialist here in Altoona told him he was going to need a Lung Transplant and had to have many tests done to confirm he was a candidate for this Transplant. After completing many of those tests at Allegheny General Hospital, it was confirmed he was a candidate for a transplant. After having this confirmation his name was added

to the national list with all the other potential recipients that were waiting for transplants as well. At that time, there were 80,000 people on the waiting list. My family and many of our friends were very hopeful and said many prayers that my Dad would receive a Miracle. On December 5th 1993 that Miracle happened. My dad received a call on December 4th at 2 a.m. stating they had a perfect match for him and did he want to accept this offer for his new lung. Of course with joy, happiness and fear he accepted the Gift of Life and the process began. My dad's transplant was very successful thanks to our Donor Family, Dr. Mark Lega, Dr. George McGovern and the Transplant Team. My dad received 9 more years of life thanks to his 36 year old donor. 2 years after my Dad's death on January 8th 2004 my husband and I received a phone call from my sister stating my mother had a stroke and was being transported to Altoona Hospital. After arriving at the hospital and not seeing my mother right away asking many nurses and doctors where my mother was and seeing the fear on their faces I knew my mother had more than just a stroke. Minutes later which felt like hours to me Dr. Burke came out of the ER doors asking who was there for Kim Lower and I said we are. The doctor explained that my mother had a Cerebral Brain Hemorrhage and he needed to have consent to perform her brain surgery and there wasn't minutes to waste. I signed the consent and as he is walking away from me he told me to meet him on the 8th floor waiting room. Immediately, I called my pastor and rest of my family to tell them to get to the hospital ASAP. 1 hour later Dr. Burk came out to tell us her surgery went well however her pupils wouldn't dilate so therefore he was taking her down to get another CT scan and would be back to talk with us. After 15 minutes went by, Dr. Burke came back to the waiting room and called my family into a private hall to tell us our mother had another hemorrhage in route to get her CT scan and was confirmed 98% brain dead. We, my sister and brother and I had to make one of the hardest choices in our lives and it was to take my mother off life support at age 52. My mother was an Organ Donor, she was able to donate and save 7 other lives. Today, there are 116,000 people awaiting a transplant so please make that Pledge and become an organ donor today. My family and many of our friends are registered organ donors and I encourage each and every one of you to make that Pledge of Life as well if you have not already.

HOSPITAL DEVELOPMENT

CORE Announces Recipient of 2012 Donate Life Award at 14th Annual Cameos of Caring Awards Gala



CORE is pleased to recognize **Christine Angeletti** of Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh as the recipient of the 2012 Donate Life Award. The award honors a nurse for their outstanding commitment to the donation program at their hospital, along with their dedication to organ, tissue and cornea donors and their families. Angeletti received the award at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing's 14th annual Cameos of Caring Awards Gala event that took place on November 3 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in downtown Pittsburgh. "Nurses play a critical role in the organ, tissue and cornea donation process. Their compassion enables a patient's family to understand the options and how their loved one's legacy can live on through donation," said Susan Stuart, president and CEO of CORE. "On behalf of CORE, I'd like to congratulate Chris and thank her for her continued commitment to donation along with her support and contributions to CORE." A resident of Bethel Park, Angeletti currently serves as a patient care supervisor in the pediatric intensive care unit at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh where she oversees departmental operations of 36 beds within the medical and surgical pediatric intensive care unit. She has more than 20 years of experience in various roles at Children's Hospital, such as senior professional staff nurse, patient service manager and nursing coordinator. Angeletti began her career as an EMT/paramedic. At Children's Hospital, Angeletti serves as CORE's critical care liaison, working with hospital staff to identify and resolve barriers in the donation process. She is also a member of CORE's Donor Service Area (DSA) Action Team, which consists of hospital physicians and clinical managers working to reduce process variability and integrate best practices within the donation community. Angeletti holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Carlow College.

DONATE LIFE DEDICATION GARDEN



The Donate Life Dedication Garden offers donor families, transplant recipients, and candidates, hospitals, and transplant centers and organizations nationwide the opportunity to dedicate roses placed on the Donate Life Float in the Rose Parade, which is watched by tens of millions of people in the U.S. and worldwide on New Year's Day. Each dedicated rose is placed in a vial that carries a unique, personal message of love, hope and remembrance and honors donors, recipients, and others touched by organ and tissue donation. Although, thousands of roses create a Dedication Garden that is a featured design element on the Donate Life float each year. For more information about the float and the Family Circle program, please visit www.donatelifefloat.org and click on Dedication Garden or call Michelle Christenson at CORE with questions.

WESTERN PA KIDNEY SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

DECEMBER

9th - Pittsburgh West, King's
Restaurant, 500 Market Place
Drive, Oakdale, PA
2:30pm
Contact: Mike Currin
724-796-1603

16th - Westmoreland, King's
Restaurant, Route 119,
Youngwood, PA
2:00pm
Contact: Jack Silverstein
412-427-2969 or
silverjacki@yahoo.com

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Heather Miller Memorial Golf Classic - "It's Not About the Golf"

by Rick Daughterty (Heather's Uncle) and the Heather Miller Memorial Committee



The fourth Friday in July is a bittersweet day for the Gary and Jody Miller family. It is the day that 200-plus golfers, friends, and family gather at Oglebay Park Crispin Golf Course to celebrate the life and to honor the memory

of Heather Nicole Miller. Heather is Gary and Jody's oldest daughter, and the annual Heather Miller Memorial Golf Tournament takes place on this day. Heather was 21 years old. She was six weeks away from graduating from the West Virginia University School of Nursing when her life tragically ended as a result of an alcohol-related car crash. The Miller's and their extended family and friends spent the days following the crash praying for a miracle. Heather's prognosis was not good. Heather remained on life support for one week and was declared brain dead on March 31, 2008. After the doctors and nurses worked to save Heather's life, the family was introduced to CORE, Center for Organ Recovery and Education. Representatives from CORE informed Gary and Jody that Heather had checked the Organ Donor box on her Driver's License. The Miller family learned that through Heather's selfless act and from one family's tragedy, miracles come for many other families. Heather's heart, liver, kidneys, tissue, and bone were recovered and then transplanted in recipients as far away as San Diego, California and upstate New York. In the days and weeks following Heather's death, a group of family members and close friends organized the first Heather Miller Memorial Golf Classic. Since then, the golf classic has raised funds for scholarships in Heather's name for students pursuing a career in the nursing field. In the four years since Heather's death, sixteen scholarships have been awarded to date. There also are two fully endowed scholarships. One is with the Ohio County Schools Foundation and the other with the West Virginia School of Nursing Foundation. CORE and donor awareness have become an integral part of the Heather Miller Memorial Golf Classic. Colleen Sullivan, CORE Community Outreach Coordinator, has attended the past two events and has registered numerous of golfers and volunteers as donors. Jerry and Joe McGlumphy, two of Jody's brothers, host the "Jerry and Joe Show." It is on the tee of the CORE hole at the Golf Classic. They, along with Colleen, educate and entertain the golfers as they pass through. In what has become the theme statement of the tournament, "IT'S NOT ABOUT THE GOLF," as Joe and Jerry say. WKKX, a local radio station, did a live remote from the golf classic focusing on the CORE story, testimonials from local organ recipients, and Mothers Against Drunk Driving, another organization supported by the event. In what has become a tradition, B. E. Taylor, national recording artist, kicks off the tournament with an acapella rendition of the Beatles "Here Comes The Sun" which was Heather's favorite song. Each year, the Heather Miller Memorial Golf Classic honors an individual or group that has touched the Millers' lives in a special and unique way. Members of the Wheeling Police Department, Wheeling Fire Department, and the Ohio County Sheriff's Department were given plaques to honor them for their absolute acts of kindness and true compassion which they gave to Heather in the minutes and hours following the crash. They also gave the Miller family a "peacefulness" that they haven't had in four years. Leading up the Golf Classic's shotgun start, Jerry McGlumphy delivered a short speech reaffirming the event's mission: To honor Heather's legacy, to promote the "Gift of Life," and to explain the "Alcohol Free" tournament policy. Over the years, there has been a remarkable series of events. Heather was honored on the 2012 Donate Life Float in the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California. Heather was one of seventy memorial floragraphs that were displayed on the "Donate Life Float". Gary, Jody, Sarah (Heather's sister), Samuel, and Nathan (Heather's brothers) participated in decorating the float. They participated in the ceremonies as well as the Rose Parade. The theme of the float was "One More Day," which could not have been more appropriate. At the end of the day, a child's death and a family's pain, and the never ending sense of what might have been, has been transformed into an ongoing gift. We thank you, Heather, for your most selfless act, "The Gift of Life." You truly have made us better people, and you will always remain our hero.

Heather's Poem

Brown Eyes
Big as the Sun
A heart Just as Big
Filled with Joy and Fun
Daughter, Sister, Granddaughter,
Niece, Cousin, Friend
Touching People
In Ways They Now Comprehend

Feeling and Loving Caring and Healing
United with God
Your First Journey too Short
And Your New One Just Begun
When we Think of You Now
HERE COMES THE SUN!
Love, Uncle Rick



ERIE DONATION COLLABORATIVE 2012



Laura Cwynar, CORE and Matt Niles, UPMC Hamot



Connie Culp, Face Transplant Recipient and Cheryl Smith, Reconstructive Transplant Coordinator



CORE Erie Volunteers with the CORE Spirit Stick!

TRIO PITTSBURGH CHAPTER MEETING

January 20th
1:30pm at Montefiore

The TRIO-Pittsburgh Chapter has its monthly meetings to discuss chapter issues as well as support meeting so that you may discuss your transplant concerns and issues. Guest speakers will be announced accordingly. Meetings will be the 3rd Sunday of every month.

Time:

1:30 pm - Support Group meeting to discuss your transplant concerns and issues.

2:30 pm - General Meeting to discuss Chapter events and issues

Location: Monthly meetings alternate locations.

UPMC Montefiore LHAS Auditorium, 7th Floor next to main lobby or Allegheny General Hospital, Snyder Auditorium, 1st Floor, South Tower

DID YOU KNOW

CORE Honors Greenville, PA Organ Donor with Floragraph on Donate Life Float in 2013 Rose Parade

CORE is pleased to announce its participation in the nationally televised 124th Rose Parade (January 1, 2013 beginning at 11 a.m. ET in Pasadena, CA). For the third year in a row, CORE is sponsoring a memorial floragraph portrait that will appear on Donate Life's float during the parade. This year, the family of Christopher Hershberger, a 17-year old organ donor from Greenville, PA, will create a likeness of him out of flowers. The resulting floragraph will adorn the float to commemorate Hershberger's life-saving gift. CORE will hold a floragraph decorating event on Thursday, December 13, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. ET at Hershberger's former school, Greenville High School (9 Donation Rd., Greenville, PA 16125) during an assembly for the entire student body. At the event, CORE will discuss the importance of registering to become an organ, tissue and cornea donor with the students, and introduce Hershberger's family, who will complete the floragraph. "At CORE, we believe Donate Life America's floragraph program puts a human face on the cause of organ, tissue and cornea donation and provides a compelling way to honor the legacy of organ donors such as Christopher," said Susan Stuart, president and CEO of CORE. "We are proud to honor Christopher, and we are delighted that Pennsylvania will be represented again this year in the Rose Parade." Greenville, PA native Christopher Hershberger died in January of 2012 after a sudden illness. As an active and fun-loving 17-year-old boy with Down's syndrome, Christopher had many gifts and special talents that he loved to share with others. His family felt that a child who was so full of life had to pass that gift on to others. Christopher donated his liver, heart valves, kidneys and pancreas. As an organ donor, Christopher improved the lives of four other people. Christopher's floragraph will be one of 72 floragraphs that will adorn the Donate Life float in the Rose Parade. Each one commemorates an organ donor from across the country. Donate Life America chose the theme of "Journeys of the Heart" for this year's Rose Parade float. It was inspired by Dr. Seuss' Oh, the Places You'll Go! and depicts the celebration, reverence, love and courage that define the human experience of organ, tissue and cornea donation and transplantation. The Donate Life float will be adorned with a pathway of looping hearts lined with the floragraph portraits of the donors who are remembered every step of the way.



VOLUNTEERS: Center of our Success

As we prepare for the holidays we want to say THANK YOU for sharing your life and stories with others in your community to educate them on the importance of organ donation.

The center of our success
rests in people like you,
who embody the spirit of greatness
by saying, "Yes I can, and so can you!"
Thanks for your inspiring dedication
and tremendous example to the world.

Author - unknown

You may not realize how valuable your service is to CORE and we want you to know that you are the center of our success. You compel people to listen to the facts and dispel the myths about organ donation. Sharing your story informs others about the benefit to those waiting for a lifesaving or life improving transplant. We appreciate your continued support and dedication to ensuring that others have a second chance by receiving the gift of hope.

Are you reading this and are still looking for a way to share your story? Maybe you aren't sure you have time or how you can help. We have a few opportunities listed below that might interest you: Event and Activities Volunteer, Educator, Office Assistant, Presenter, DMV Ambassador or Special Events Volunteer. Contact Marla D'Andries today to register and receive a volunteer welcome packet at mdandries@core.org or 1-800-366-6777.

Upcoming Meetings

November 29th Section 1 - Wheeling area 6:00pm - Springhill Suites 908 National Rd

December 3rd Section 2 - Clarksburg area 6:00pm - location to be determined

If you are interested in either of these meetings please contact Christy Conley at

cconley@core.org or 1-800-366-6777

ORGAN DONATION TOOLBOX



Organ Donation Toolbox is an Internet-based repository or virtual “toolbox” of administrative and clinical resources, suggested educational strategies, and supporting materials for both Organ Procurement Organizations (OPO) and donor hospitals. This toolbox is a collection of OPO and donor hospital best practices in one convenient virtual location. The Organ Donation Toolbox is a collaborative project that was made possible by the Donation and Transplantation Community of Practice as well as its workgroup members. The toolbox includes topics such as:

- Checklists
- Policies
- Quality Tools
- Legal and Regulatory References
- Intensivist Models and Information about Brain Injury Guidelines
- Donation after Circulatory Determination of Death,
- Donor Designation
- Donor Management
- Neurologic Determination of Death
- Pediatric donation.

Please visit: <http://healthcarecommunities.org/donationtoolbox> to view these best practices. You may also add the toolbox to your mobile device as an “app” or a shortcut link. Simply navigate to the above address and add the icon/address to your home screen from your Internet toolbar. If you have any questions, please contact: Helen Bollinger, Grants & Government Liaison at hbollinger@core.org or 412-963-3550.

MULTICULTURAL OUTREACH PROGRAM



Happy Birthday Dr. Clive O. Callender, MOTTEP Founder

Dr. Clive Callender, African American Pioneer & Transplant Surgeon turns 76 years old. National MOTTEP is an acronym for the National Minority Organ Tissue Transplant Education Program. It has program sites in 12 major cities including the U.S. Virgin Islands and Honolulu, HI. The Center for Recovery and Education is proud to be MOTTEP site. MOTTEP is the first national organization designed to simultaneously promote organ/tissue donation and preventing the need for transplantation in the first place. The mission of National MOTTEP is to decrease the number and rate of ethnic minority Americans needing organ and tissue transplants. MOTTEP will achieve its mission by implementing a national information and education

campaign that emphasizes both prevention and intervention strategies that result in:

- Healthier lifestyles and behavioral patterns
- Increased number of minority donors and transplant recipients
- Increased number of family discussions regarding family medical history and organ/tissue transplants
- Increased number of minority donor pledges

National MOTTEP exists to specifically educate ethnic minority Americans about the need for organ, tissue and blood donations. Minorities are disproportionately affected by hypertension and diabetes – the leading causes of kidney failure. Therefore, National MOTTEP simultaneously educates communities about the diseases and behaviors that lead to the need for transplantation.

West Virginia Multicultural Task Force “CELEBRATES NATIONAL DONOR SABBATH”



The state of West Virginia was a buzz on November 10, 2012 at the Columbia Transmission Center, Charleston, WV, where gospel artists played to a near packed auditorium in celebration of National Donor Sabbath. The WV Multicultural Task Force hosted their 4th Annual Celebration of Praise Gospel Concert. The concert is an effective vehicle to reach the faith based community by sharing

the message of organ and tissue donation and end-of-life decisions through music. They utilized national and local gospel talent along with transplant recipients and donor families that highlighted “A Message in a Moment” sharing how making the Pledge for Life had affected their lives. National Donor Sabbath seeks to educate faith-based communities about the need for organ, cornea and tissue donation.

EXTERNAL PARTNER SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

External Partner Special Recognition Award recognizes external partners who have demonstrated our CORE values of Integrity, Compassion, Quality, Responsiveness, Education, Innovation, Respect, and Life. A recent awardee of the External Partner Special Recognition Award is **Zia Sabet, M.D.**, Deputy Chief Medical Director of the West Virginia Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. Dr. Sabet was recommended by TJ Roser, Funeral Director / Coroner Liaison and Jessica Yokubeak, Associate Director of Donor Referral Services. TJ and Jessica feel that Dr. Sabet deserves this recognition because:

“In order for donation to occur, Dr. Sabet rearranged the daily autopsy schedule to ensure that the family’s wish was carried out. Dr. Sabet truly showed the CORE value of Compassion when he was a tremendous help to CORE and the donor family by rearranging his schedule.”

Working with Dr. Sabet has impacted TJ and Jessica in the following way:

“Dr. Sabet is truly an advocate for donation and for families who have suffered a great loss. He is a wonderful partner to work with and we thank him for everything he did to help make donation happen for this family.”

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Sabet of the WV Office of the Chief Medical Examiner for living by the CORE values!

Santa's Fun Cruise



Saturday, December 15
11:00am
Gateway Clipper Fleet

FREE ADMISSION for children and their families who have been impacted by chronic illnesses. Space is Limited! Please RSVP no later than December 10 by calling 724-591-6009 or send an email to

izziesgifts@gmail.com.

Please note: The boat will leave at 11am sharp! Please arrive 30 minutes prior to departure.

Izzie's Gifts of Hope Foundation is a non-profit charity created to enrich the lives of children and families impacted by chronic illness.

CAREER MOVES

On October 9th, **Sharon Rakowski** became an Organ Procurement Coordinator. She has a degree in biology from Christopher Newport University and joins CORE from the University of Toledo Human Donation Science program. Sharon enjoys horseback riding and stained glass.

Nancy Jones was hired as a Quality Coordinator on October 11th. She has a bachelor's degree from Lycoming College in Sociology/Anthropology and Religion. Nancy brings great experience from her previous positions as a verification specialist, data entry and file clerk, and an office assistant. Her late husband, Warren, received a 5-organ abdominal transplant in January of 2007 at UPMC Montefiore. He survived 18 months. This experience led her to her passion for organ donation and promotion and the reason she is so thrilled to be able to work for CORE.

On November 2nd, **Jessica Turik** was also hired as a Quality Coordinator. Her education is from Sanford Brown Institute in anesthesia technology and joins us from UPMC Presbyterian. Jessica volunteers during the holidays at soup kitchens. She also enjoys yoga, hiking, snowboarding, running, and baking.

Allison Samol was hired as a Recovery Coordinator on November 2nd. She has a degree in biology with a specialty in autopsy from Carlow University. Allison is experienced as a Certified Nurses Assistant from Western Psychiatric and is CPR certified. She also performed an externship with the Allegheny County Medical Examiner's Office and Dr. Cyril Wecht Autopsy. Allison enjoys running, reading, kayaking, hiking, skiing, and spending time with friends and family.

OPEN POSITIONS:

OPC
 Regional OPC, Erie
 Admin (HR/DRC)
 Part-time PSL

UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						DEC 1
2	3 Shadyside Orientation	4	5 Physician Orientation	6	7	8
9	10 Shadyside Orientation	11	12 New Employee Orientation	13	14	15
16	17 Shadyside Orientation	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Shadyside Orientation	25	26	27	28	29

Events in **BOLD** need coverage. For more information please call or email:

Christy Conley or Marla D'Andries at (412) 963-3550

SIGN UP TO BECOME A DONOR



www.donatelife-pa.org



www.donatelifewv.org