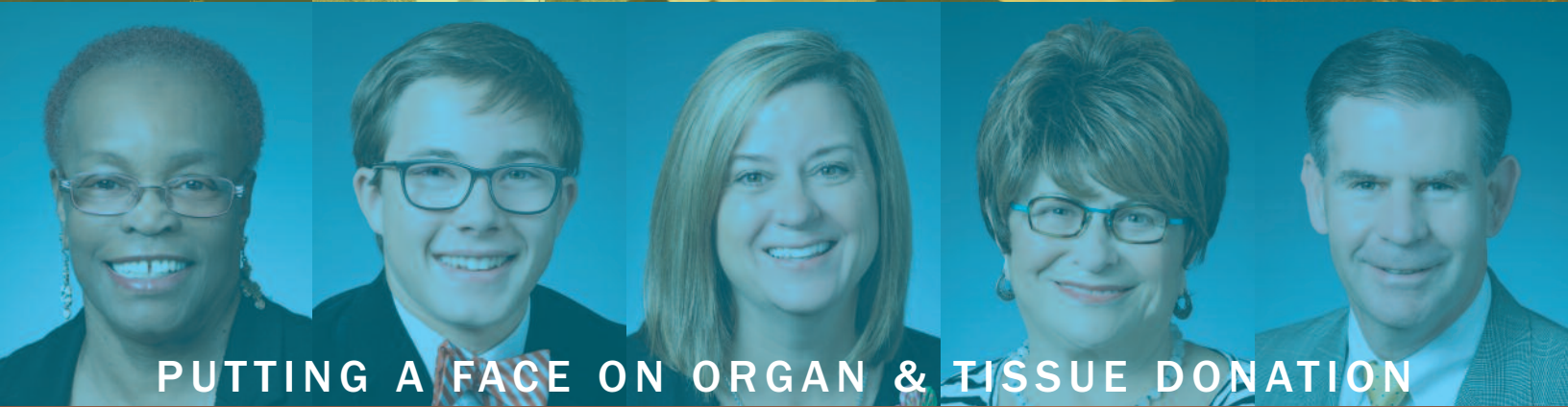




W I N T E R 2 0 1 3



PUTTING A FACE ON ORGAN & TISSUE DONATION  
15 YEARS LATER, YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN







# Simplicity is Key to Life Savers

**A**uthenticity is essential when speaking to high school students about organ and tissue donation. The medical aspects, personal challenges, hope and heartbreak of transplant stories can become complicated and mired in detail. That is why **Kim Harbur**, Co-Founder and Director of Education, is diligent about helping speakers to share their story, but keeping the message simple; learn about organ and tissue donation and share your decision with loved ones. Imagine volunteer **Libby Stone**, a young woman in her 20s explaining that she had a “domino liver transplant”. Libby was able to donate her liver to someone else after she received a liver from a donor. Or **Sharon Kelly**, mother of four and grandmother of nine, relocating from Chanute, Kansas, to St. Louis as she waited for months to receive a lung transplant. The stories go on... but the message remains the same. And it makes a difference when done well. \*

**25,000**  
Individuals reached

**550**  
Classroom programs delivered

**90**  
Participating metro high schools

**39**  
Trained classroom speakers

## Gift of Life Speakers Bureau:

Gary Boring, heart recipient  
Pam Brandsted, recipient mother  
Bob & Tonya Brown, donor parents  
Debra Callaway, living kidney donor  
Jerri Carroll, donor mother  
Danna Dahl, recipient family  
Michele Shanahan DeMoss, donor mother  
Gail G. Dicus, heart recipient  
Dwight Douglas, heart recipient  
Phil Duncan, heart recipient  
Sandy Edwards, liver recipient  
Barbara Frye, kidney recipient  
Suzanne Frye, living kidney donor  
Beulah Gaskin, donor grandmother  
Sheryl Granville, liver recipient  
Luke Harbur, liver recipient  
Andy Heath, living liver donor  
Amy Honeycutt, liver recipient  
Maureen Hulbert, living kidney donor  
Ginger Ireland, living liver donor

David Jeter, heart recipient  
Sharon Kelly, lung recipient  
Kathy Kratoofil, liver recipient  
Sam Loughmiller, kidney recipient  
Frank Mascaro, heart recipient  
Pete McHugh, liver recipient  
Pam McHugh, recipient family  
Larry McMillin, donor father  
Michael Nolte, donor family & tissue recipient  
Erica Peters, recipient family  
Anne Peterson, donor mother  
Emilee Rickard, recipient family  
Deb Simaitis, donor mother  
Libby Stone, liver recipient  
Milt Strader, kidney recipient  
Paul Tucker, kidney/pancreas recipient  
Tom Weathers, kidney recipient  
Steve White, donor family  
Fred Wingert, pancreas recipient  
Lisa Zimmerer, kidney/pancreas recipient

## Life Savers Rally Delivers. Real Stories & Detours

**“W**e want real stories from real people...” There was no need for the Gift of Life Youth Advisory Board to expound further as they collaborated with the Life Savers Planning Team for the annual event at the Truman Forum of the Plaza Library. Rally speakers stuck to the formula, but threw a curve ball to the teens — *life’s journey includes detours*.

**Detour One:** Transplant surgeon, **Dr. Sean Kumer** from the University of Kansas Hospital and Medical Center threw the first pitch. He was playing collegiate baseball and

headed into the family business until he decided to take life in his hands and become a transplant surgeon. A choice he does not regret.

**Suzanne Frye** joined her mother **Barbara** on the stage for the celebration of their unexpected journey. Barbara needed a kidney transplant and Suzanne changed her life plans to become a living donor for her mom. The life of **Dr. Debra Ellerbusch** took a detour when she learned that she needed a liver transplant. Her petite size made a split-liver transplant possible. One donor — two lives saved.

**Mike Nolte** became the gatekeeper for his extended family when they lost his niece and namesake, Micah. He showed news footage ironically taken one year later when he was literally detoured on I-70. He was in a car that exploded in a wreck killing a police officer and severely burning Mike. His story reiterated the Life Saver message to share your decision now, rather than wait.

**The Final Detour:** Donor mother **Anne Peterson** greeted the police and sirens at home one night; every parent’s nightmare. Her son,

Bryan Barrow, a high-spirited athlete had been in a car wreck and was taken to the hospital. She spoke about the route the police took that night to avoid the crash scene. She talked about Bryan and read from letters written by the recipients of his organs. His decision was to be brave, be fearless and to become an organ donor. The power of this decision, she said, is in the hands of each student at the Rally regardless of any changes in their journey ahead. \*



## Passing Conversations Change Lives – Again!



1



2

1. Peter McHugh hosted a lunch and learn about organ and tissue donation for employees at American Century Investments.  
2. Kim & Nate Harbur at the Johnson County Bar Foundation's benefit.

For fifteen years the message from Gift of Life has remained constant: Learn about organ and tissue donation, and share your decision. New liver recipient and board member **Peter McHugh** knows that conversations make a difference. A conversation led to a designated donation that saved his life thanks to the generosity of a donor family. **Kim & Nate Harbur**, Gift of Life Co-Founders, understood this in 1996.

Conversations between friends enabled their son, Luke, to receive a life-saving liver transplant when he was eleven months old. It's the same story for **Andy Donnelly**, Life Mentors Program Manager and liver recipient. Ten years ago **Lisa & Mike Holleron**, old friends of Andy's, placed the call to Gift of Life. That conversation led to a life-saving transplant for Andy.

Fast forward to 2012. Andy took his son to a pre-schooler's birthday party. You know the scene, all the dads hung back and a new conversation began. **Chad Spencer's** father had been waiting for a liver transplant in another state for five years. He asked Andy about his work....and at press time Chad's father was in recovery from a new transplant. The conversation between Chad and Andy encouraged **Dan & Sharon Spencer** to sell their accounting business and relocate to Kansas City this fall. Dan was followed by the Center for Transplantation at the University of Kansas Hospital. Their wait was five weeks, not five years.

In a perfect world, these stories would not be uncommon. In the meantime, Gift of Life volunteers will keep educating our community so other families will have life-saving conversations. ✱

## Local Organizations & Volunteers Join Forces

A big thanks is due to a number of our volunteers and local organizations that have raised funds to support education for organ and tissue donation through Gift of Life. Community Giving Day was hosted by **Whole Foods Market** at 91st & Metcalf raising \$7,000. **Precision Roofing** in Lee's Summit hosted their annual Celebrity Golf Tournament at Lakewood with a benefit auction for Gift of Life and local charities. "Carnaval" was the chosen theme when **The Johnson County Bar Foundation** raised \$7,500 for Gift of Life as their featured charity. Gift of Life has earned a reputation for reliability and cheerful help with organizations that need a manpower boost for their special events. Barbara Frye, kidney recipient, organized a shopping night for Gift of Life at **Tommy Bahama** on the Country Club Plaza. Recipient parents, Jerry & Jan Weaver coordinated with Samantha Green, founder of **Crawl for Cancer** to break the Guinness World Record. That record-breaking event raised \$10,000! If that wasn't enough, our volunteers gathered to support **Golf4Life: The Isabelle Ellis Memorial Classic** raising \$7,000. If you have an event on your docket that needs a boost of people power, or to inquire how we can help, contact Executive Director **Keith Anderson**, [keith@giftdonor.org](mailto:keith@giftdonor.org). ✱



1. Board President, David Jeter & Amanda Ellis, Golf4Life co-founder, paid special tribute in memory of Dan Wastler with Bev Wastler and family.  
2. Larry McMillin remembered golf committee member, Emily Swearingen, and presented a memorial gift to her family. 3. Living kidney donor Maureen Hulbert with KC Royals alum and new author, Willie Wilson at Precision Roofing's tournament.



Every person who is an organ or tissue donor has a story and a family. The miraculous impact of their choice to make a difference is featured in this newsletter. Through the year their stories are shared by Gift of Life in high school classrooms, local hospitals, on our web site (gift donor.org) and Facebook page (gifttolife). None of this would be possible without the ongoing financial support and in-kind donations of those listed on this page. Thank you!

#### Community Partners

Contributors who commit to an annual gift of \$5,000 or more

John M. Bowen & Associates  
Nate & Kim Harbur  
Olathe Medical Center  
University of Kansas Hospital

#### The Gift of Time

187 Volunteers in 2013  
1,412 Hours  
Total Value \$28,240

#### Gift of \$25,000

John W. & Effie E. Speas  
Memorial Trust,  
Bank of America, Trustee

#### Gifts \$10,000 - \$15,000

John & Nell Bowen  
Crawl for Cancer  
Dan & Peggy Lowe

#### Gifts \$5,000 to \$9,999

American Century Investments  
Foundation  
Community Health Charities  
Richard & Courtney Gilroy  
The Hall Family Foundation  
Nate & Kim Harbur  
Rich & Michele Hendrickson  
Estate of Bonnie Jeffries  
Midwest Transplant Network  
Sharon Nelson  
Sean & Alix Kumer  
Larry & Peggy McMillin  
The Price Family Foundation  
Olathe Medical Center  
Precision Roofing  
The University of  
Kansas Hospital

#### Gifts \$2,500 to \$4,999

Patty & Terry Adams  
Arvest Bank  
Amini's Galleria  
Bear & Bear, Carroll Burger  
BlueCross BlueShield of  
Kansas City  
Cereal Food Processors  
Gail G. Dicus & Jim Yarrington  
Chris & Amanda Ellis  
Jamie & Jo Forster  
Steve & Cindy Heene  
Eric & Charlene Hughes  
Lockton Benefits  
Whole Foods - Jennifer Matakic  
Flip & Janet Short  
The Transplant Institute at  
Research Medical Center  
Charlie Smith & Stella Quison  
John & Becky Turner  
ViraCor - IBT Laboratories

#### Gifts \$1,000 to \$2,499

Deborah Bannworth  
Mack & Kim Bowen  
Bertil & Ulla Brunk  
Children's Mercy  
Hospitals & Clinics  
CompAlliance Managed Care  
Ben Craig  
Dave & Amy Fischbach  
The Estate of Mary Lou Garton  
Bob & Jeanne Glidewell  
Michael & Vicki Graft  
Donald Hall  
Heartland Lions Eyebank  
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Kansas Gas Service  
Bob & Joy Kearney  
David Kling & Jeri Bartunek  
Brad & Amanda Koffman  
Steve & Laura Kracht  
Diane Lang

John & Mary Martinovich  
Peter & Pam McHugh  
Mona Moran & Ivan Veselic  
Greg & Vicki Muehlebach  
North Kansas City Hospital  
Keith & Margi Pence  
Diane Ravis  
Tom & Wendy Rensenhouse  
Saint Luke's Hospital  
Timothy & Jean Schmitt  
South & Associates, P.C.  
University of Kansas Hospital  
Bob & Meta Watson

#### Gifts \$500 to \$999

The Alpert Companies  
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Pam Brunk  
Jim & Carol Burrows  
Marshaun Butler  
Bill Chase & Betse Gage  
Consentino Service Co.  
Doug & Barbara Cusick  
Mitsy Donnelly  
Kris Drake  
Phil Duncan  
Durrie Vision - Dr. Dan Durrie  
Tommy Bahama - Barbara Frye  
Christy & Patrick Sirridge  
Lowell & Teresa Ghosey  
Tracy Giacom  
Michelle Good  
Nathan C. Harbur, Chartered  
Kyle & Elizabeth Hart  
Richard Hart  
Patty Horacycutt  
Bill Horak  
Becki & Jeff Huether  
Doug & Molly Hundley  
Jekyll Island Club Hotel -  
Patty Henning  
Steve & Beverly Johnston  
Sharon & Dick Kelly  
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Sam & Glenna Loughmiller  
Midwest Golf Classic - Don Hall  
Ann Miller  
Mike & Julie Morrand  
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Susan Parmelee Sankpili  
David & Rachel Sosland  
Venkataraman Ramachandran &  
Anuradha Rajagopalan  
Don & Nancy Ross  
David & Jackie Russell  
Ken & Teri Sackin  
Renee Shelton  
Steven & Elisa Silverstein  
Dan & Lisa Stalp  
Ira & Kay Stolzer  
Charles Stryker  
Kevin Taylor  
Bradley & Barbara Warady

#### Gifts under \$500

Roger & Nancy Adrian  
Joan Akins  
Nathan Allison  
Keith & Leslie Anderson  
Mark & Jeanne Anderson  
Kristin Anderson  
Charles Anderson  
Tom & Mary Andrews  
Fred Angle  
Jerry & Mary Ellen Anselmo  
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Gerald & Judith Baker  
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Vito Barbieri  
Gena Bardwell  
Chuck & Diane Barnes  
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Jill Beesley  
Randy Belfort  
Terry Benson  
Brian & Lynda Bentler  
Robert & Pamela Bergin  
Eric Bernhardt & Jacquelyn Smyth  
Terry & Linda Bertholf  
Brent & Shellie Billau  
Bob Bjerg  
Tom Black  
Susan Black  
Richard Blackburn  
Jean & John Blaes  
Tom Blakely  
Cynde Block  
Jim & Shannon Blocker  
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Sharlyn Bogner & John Noyes  
Ford & Nan Bohl  
Dyce & Wanda Bonham  
Russ & Cathy Boomer  
Mary Brahrer  
Troy & Jennifer Branch  
Pam & Mark Brandsted  
Chuck & Marilyn Breitenstein  
Anita Bresser  
Ryan Brewer  
Lynne & Mike Brewer  
Terrence Brown & Scott Pittack  
Christopher Brown  
Jim & Carolyn Buche  
Tom & Kathy Busch  
Stanley Butler  
Stan & Lynda Byrne  
Patricia Calhoun  
Brenda Cameron  
John & Kayn Campbell  
John & Karen Campbell  
Phyllis Capps  
Denett Carpenter  
Maureen Carple  
John & Clarita Casey  
John Cayer  
Donald & Dorothy Chamblin  
Marcia Charney  
Alicia Cheeseman  
Bill & Ann Christopher  
Cinemark Theatre  
Elaine Claiborne  
Deke Clayborn  
Katherine Cleverger  
Randy Coffey  
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Jim & Donna Collie  
David & Lauren Conderman  
Linda Cook  
JJ & Crissa Cook  
Pat & Charlie Cooper  
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Chaundra Crawford  
Matt & Amber Crawley  
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Lance Evans

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Inez Ferrel  
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Kristin & Mathew Fitzsimmons  
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Jeffrey & Gretchen Granberg  
Sheryl & Fred Granville  
Karen Graves  
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Maureen Greenspan  
Maxine Grisolan  
Matt & Molly Groebe  
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Karen Hallouer  
Tom & Janice Hamill  
Emily Hamilton  
Scott Hanks  
Amelia & Myron Hannigan  
Miles & Vic Harbur  
Phil & Marcie Harness  
Peggy Harth  
Glen & Barb Hayes  
Roger Heckman  
Gary Hedberg  
Jay & Missy Heidrick  
Juli & Bryce Heitman  
Richard Helmer  
Jeanie Hendrix  
Jessica Herrera  
Kenneth Herring  
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Peggy Higby  
Pat Hill  
Kim Hiltz  
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Benjamin & Mary Hobbs  
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Debra Holsteen  
Matt Honeycutt  
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41 Action News - Gary Lezak  
Joyce Lichtenberg  
Life Centers of Kansas, LLC  
Mark Lindhorst  
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Keven O'Grady  
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Lola Ostreicher  
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Kevin & Deborah Owen  
Craig Paddock  
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Lynn & Andy Patton  
Steve & Paula Pawlewicz  
Norma Payne  
Troy & Lori Peaches  
Vern Pearson  
Dave & Vicki Peck  
Rachel Pepper  
Joe & Erica Perkin  
Brian Perott  
Stevie & Shelly Pessin  
Jeff & Jaime Peterson  
Anne Peterson  
Betty Jo Phelps  
Mark Phelps  
Stacey Phillips  
H. Wayne & Susan Pieper  
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St. Pius  
Genny Poage  
Alex Pope  
Francis & Darlene Porch  
Prairie Highlands Golf Course  
John Price  
Print Time  
Bob & Martha Pruitt  
Karen Prusator  
Kraig & Laura Pyer  
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Debra Rhea  
Nancy & Roger Rhoades  
Deborah Rhodes  
Michelle Riddle  
Mark & Nancy Rider  
Ruth Rider-Seck  
Kathy Riegelman &  
Larry Beekman  
Alexis Roades  
Cole Robinson  
Michael & Christi Rowen  
Pete Ruddick  
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Joyce Sanko  
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Martin & Cynthia Schaller  
Kathy Schaller  
Ken & Joleen Schaller  
Mark & Mary Sue Schiefelbein  
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Todd Schuster  
Randy & Karl Schwartz  
Dick & Pat Selesky  
Cassie & Matt Sharp  
Jeannie Sharp  
Joanna Shawver  
Norm & Cindy Shay

#### Special Thanks & Services

Auman Mack  
DocuMart  
Helen Giacom  
The Kansas City Public Library  
Media Head  
Planet Sub  
SupportKC  
Rachel Smith  
Paul Tucker



## Life Mentors Offer Encouragement

**A**s of this year, over **325 households** have now received encouragement and support from our trained Life Mentors for transplantation since the program began. Last year over 350 solid organ transplants were performed in Kansas City and our team was there to offer this service at no charge to new recipients, living donors and their families. We extend special thanks to our four local transplant hospitals who refer patients to the program; Children's Mercy Hospital, The Transplant Institute at Research Medical Center, Saint Luke's Hospital, and The Center for Transplantation at the University of Kansas Hospital. Listed below are volunteers who have made a difference this year: ✱

Nancy Abell  
Bobbi Abram  
Charles Anderson  
Greg Andrews  
Willene &  
Lawrie Arthur  
Patty Banks  
Terrence Brown  
Beverly Bruce  
Amber Burns  
Sheryl Chadwick  
Vicki Claggett  
Lisa Claudel  
Cheryl Davis  
Lesley DeFio  
Gail G. Dicus  
Tracy Doane  
Brenda Donahue  
Dwight Douglas  
Melissa Edris  
Sandy Edwards

Shery & Dave Fogle  
Robert Fowle  
Suzanne Frye  
Lowell &  
Teresa Ghosey  
Jeanne Glidewell  
Calitha Goff  
Julie Goodman  
Sheryl Granville  
Don Hall  
Nate & Kim Harbur  
Kellee Hearst  
Andy Heath  
Tham Hoffman  
Lisa Holleron  
Patty Honeycutt  
Becki Kling-Huether  
Maureen Hulbert  
Ginger Ireland  
David & Lydia Jeter  
Everett Johnson

Jim Jones  
Dick Kaegel  
Gene Kern  
Kathryn Kieffer  
Denise Koonse  
Keith Kopf  
Kathy Kratofil  
Merikay Lott  
Sam Loughmiller  
Alex McCallop  
Kevon McCarty  
Peggy McGinnis  
Rita McGuire  
Michael  
McSweeney  
Sue Mehl  
Dee Jo Miller  
Sonya Miller  
Lanna Moluf  
Lorie Morrison  
Ashleigh Moulder

Jeff Mowry  
Mike Murrell  
Felicia Neal-Burns  
Pat O'Connor  
Keith & Melissa  
Ostermeyer  
Eric Otte  
Chris Paxton  
Josh Peters  
Lee Petitjean  
Ansara Piebenga  
Nancy Post  
Diane Ravis  
Tim Reed  
Craig Rettmer  
Kathy Riegelman  
Jill Riester  
Dick Rosenstock  
Ann &  
Jim Rumsey  
Debby Sager

Christina  
Scholdberg  
Rebecca Schuler  
Will Shireman  
Alice Smirl  
Jim Smith  
Judy Smith  
Jennifer Smothers  
Kathy St. Clair  
Andy Staley  
Doug Strickland  
Michele Tweed  
Terra Ullery  
Marilyn Unger  
Linda Vaughn  
Katelyn Walser  
Janice Weaver  
Don Whitson  
Ramiro Zelada  
Lisa Zimmerer  
Merle Zuel

### Pinnacle Award Honors Kim Harbur

Each year the Johnson County Library Foundation hosts a dinner to present the Pinnacle Award to selected community leaders. Gift of Life Co-Founder and Director of Education Kim Bowen Harbur, was honored for excellence in advocacy and community engagement. Her work with the Life Savers classroom program was singled out for its reach into ninety local high schools. ✱

## LIFE SAVERS

### Life Savers Achievement of Excellence Award

Kim Harbur presented the annual trophy to the school(s) that presented the most effective Life Savers program during the last school year. For the first time, there was a tie between Winnetonka and Blue Valley High Schools.



1. Life Savers Rally student hosts Nate Jones & bone marrow recipient, Kori Hines.  
2. Rally speakers Suzanne & Barbara Frye.

### Life Savers Rally Sponsors

American Century  
Investments Foundation  
Bertil & Ulla Brunk  
Children's Mercy  
Hospitals & Clinics  
Dr. Jameson & Jo Forester  
Heartland Lions Eye Bank  
Johnson County Bar Foundation  
Dr. Brad & Amanda Koffman  
Peter & Pamela McHugh  
North Kansas City Hospital  
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Nate & Kim Harbur  
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University of Kansas Hospital

### Life Savers Rally Planning Team

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Luke Harbur  
Ginger Ireland  
Marie Koffman  
Kathy Kratofil  
Sam Loughmiller  
Diane Ravis

### Life Savers Message Judges

Dan Auman & Karen Swope,  
Auman Mack

### Message Contest Winning Schools

Blue Valley &  
Winnetonka High Schools

**Visit** [giftdonor.org](http://giftdonor.org) for the key to the stories and people on the cover.



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## Hats—Crowns Off!

Young women in Missouri have embraced the important message of organ and tissue donation because of a recipient family's hard work. We typically have a "Hat's" off tribute, but in this case **Emilee Rickard** wears the crown as the State Dean to the Grand Cross of Color, State of Missouri, International Order of Rainbow for Girls. Pictured with her father, liver recipient Ricky Rickard, Emilee has chosen organ and tissue donation as her platform in honor of her father's transplant. This year she will carry the Life Savers message to thousands of young women and girls.

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