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"STORIES OF HOPE" DVD GUIDE with Comprehension Q&As



Ray of Hope – 15 min (ESPN)

This video tells the story of Jason Ray, the former mascot for the University of North Carolina Tar Heels. It provides an overview of the donation and transplantation process. It also explains how and why Jason registered as a donor and emphasizes the importance of sharing your decision with your family. Viewers hear from Jason's parents, as well as the four recipients of Jason's organs and their families.



Jason Ray Story – 6 min (CBS)

This video is a shorter version of Jason Ray's story. It covers the same topics as the Ray of Hope video, but in less detail, and features three of the transplant recipients.



Chris Henry Story – 8 min (CBS)

This heart-warming story filmed in Charlotte recalls the fatal accident that took the life of NFL wide-receiver Chris Henry and the gift of life that followed for the four people who received his organs. It provides a succinct overview of the donation and transplantation process, and Chris' mother describes the decision that families must make if their loved one is not a registered donor.



Samantha's Story – 4 minutes (Donate Life Illinois)

Donor family member Tim Joos recounts the tragic loss of his teenage daughter, Samantha, who helped save the lives of others through tissue donation. Samantha was in a collision while driving in a rainstorm. This short video emphasizes safe driving precautions, as well as the importance of making a decision about donation and sharing it with your family. This video offers an excellent supplement to the other stories and lends itself to inclusion within a lesson on driving in hazardous conditions.



ESPN's Ray of Hope

- 1. How many people did Jason Ray help through organ and tissue donation? Over 50 people.
- 2. How did Jason register as a donor and why did he want to be a donor?

 Jason had registered at the DMV by placing a heart on his license and had told his mother that he didn't want to be buried with anything that could help someone else.
- 3. How did Jason's family feel about organ donation?

Initially, it was hard for the family to hear about organ donation when they were approached in the hospital because Jason's father said he wasn't thinking about sharing Jason's organs with anyone at that point — he still wanted Jason to recover and had not accepted his death. Jason had indicated on his license that he wanted to be a donor and his parents honored his decision. They described feeling "uplifted" by the process of meeting his recipients and taking comfort in being able to visualize the families Jason has helped. (NOTE: At the time of Jason's death, the heart on your license was an indication of your wishes. In 2007, The Heart Prevails law was passed, making the heart on your license legal authorization for organ and eye donation. Families are closely involved in the donation process but cannot override their loved one's decision if they are age 18 or older.)

4. Which organs did the four men receive?

Ronald — heart, Antwan — kidney, David — kidney/pancreas, Dennis — liver

- 5. What were some factors that were required for Ronald (the heart recipient) to receive a heart?

 His blood type and body size matched Jason, the donor. Ronald was also very sick, so he was at the top of the national waiting list.
- 6. The donation process is confidential. How did the recipients guess who their donor was in this case? Because of medical privacy laws and out of respect for the donor family who has just lost a loved one, everything is kept confidential. However, because Jason's death was highly publicized by the media, recipients were able to guess who their donor was. If all parties agree to disclose their personal information, communication between the donor's family and the recipients is facilitated by the organ donation and transplant agencies.
- 7. How many people were on the national waiting list at the time of Jason's death?

 Nearly 100,000 people were waiting. As of April 2013, more than 117,000 people were waiting.

 (The waiting list is updated daily at UNOS.org)

CBS' Jason Ray Story

1. What organs did the recipients featured in the video receive? Ronald – heart, Antwan – kidney, David – kidney/pancreas

2. How did Jason register as a donor and why did he want to be a donor?

Jason had registered at the DMV when he got his driver's license. He told his mother about his decision and his desire to save lives saying, "What if some child's daddy was dying and I could save that man?"

3. How did his decision impact his family?

Jason's father said that it made it easier that Jason had made the decision himself because when you're faced with your child being in a situation like Jason was, you can't think logically. He couldn't imagine making a decision to donate Jason's organs at a time when he was still hoping Jason would recover. (NOTE: At the time of Jason's death, the heart on your license was an indication of your wishes. In 2007, The Heart Prevails law was passed, making the heart on your license legal

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5. Is race a barrier to donation and transplantation?

No. Race is not a barrier, nor is it a criterion for organ placement. As seen in this instance Jason's recipients included both Caucasians and African Americans. A computer database matches organ donors with potential recipients according to medical suitability. However, patients waiting for kidney transplants are more likely to have an antigen match with a donor of the same race.

CBS' Chris Henry Story

1. Who made the decision to donate Chris' organs?

His mother had to make that decision at the time of his death, because Chris had not registered as a donor beforehand.

2. Why did she want to donate his organs?

His mother described it as "a hard decision to make but one that she would do again if she had to." She feels donation has allowed Chris to live on and brought her a new family.

3. What organs did the recipients featured in the video receive?

Brian — kidney, Donna — pancreas & kidney, James — liver, Thomas — lungs

4. What quality of life did Chris' recipients have prior to their transplants?

Brian had been on dialysis for many years; James had been given 6 months to live. All were fighting for life.

5. Are race or gender barriers to donation and transplantation?

No. The recipients of Chris Henry's organs included people of both genders and African Americans as well as Caucasians. A computer database matches organ donors with potential recipients according to medical suitability. However, patients waiting for kidney transplants are more likely to have an antigen match with a donor of the same race.

Samantha's Story

1. What caused Samantha to lose control of her vehicle?

A sudden rainstorm caused her to spin out of control and into oncoming traffic.

2. Why did her father describe the decision to donate as "easy?"

Samantha had decided to be a donor. It had been discussed and agreed upon by the family ahead of time when she registered.

3. Who did Samantha help?

She donated 25 tissues, helping many different people — and she saved a stranger's life. (The video does not include the details of her donation, but it was heart valve donation that saved an individual's life. Spine and bone are some of the other 25 tissues she donated that saved or improved many other lives.)