



April Notes

April was another amazing month and our numbers continue to be impressive. We sent out 124 shawls, lap blankets and scarves! As usual our volunteers did an outstanding job of making it all happen and I can't thank everyone enough.

I would like to share a story with you. Earlier this week I attended an event honoring those who gave the gift of life through organ and tissue donation. Jersey City Medical Center presented a "Wall of Heroes" unveiling. Donor families were invited to see the unveiling of their loved one's photo on the wall. We had the pleasure of meeting many of our donor families. Jersey City Medical Center is part of the healthcare system that employs my son. As I was eating lunch in the hospital cafeteria I looked up at the wall and saw 6 large photos of employees who were being recognized for "Enhancing Lives." To my great surprise - there was my son on the wall - bigger than life!

Later, I was speaking to a mom whose son became a donor at 29 years old. My son is 30. Both of our sons were on a wall that day. Her son was honored for giving the Gift of Life and my son received an award for Enhancing Life - I can hug my son again, she had to say goodbye. Two moms, two sons, two very different walls - one full of hope and dreams of the future and the other evoking tearful memories of a hero. I counted my blessings a million times on the ride home and my heart was heavy for a mother who lost her son. I hope when it's her turn to receive a lovingly created Wrapped in Love shawl, we can give her some comfort. Life is precious and the future is never guaranteed. Please know that all we do for our donor families is greatly appreciated. After the Wall of Heroes event our team received an email from her thanking us for an excellent presentation and for honoring all the Heroes who gave the gift of life. These are the families that our shawls will comfort.

Following are some notes of thanks from our donor families who received a Wrapped in Love Shawl:

"I received yesterday the shawl that was sent to me by the Sharing Network. I absolutely loved it, brought tears to my eyes not only because I lost my daughter but because you guys have been so supportive and I appreciate from the bottom of my heart that you still think of us. Thank you so much."

And this one:

"I'd like to say thank you so much for the shawl I received in the mail in memory of my brother. What a nice gesture. I really appreciate it. It made my day in more way than one!!"

The heartfelt letters we receive make everything we do worthwhile and it could not happen without all of you!

Hope to see you there!

In gratitude,

Lisa Colasurdo