



WRITING TO YOUR DONOR FAMILY

Many cornea recipients want to thank the family of their cornea donor. Donor families often find comfort in hearing from the recipients of their loved one's corneas. A simple note can be comforting to them.

The decision to write to your donor's family is a very personal one. You may not be ready to do so at this time, and that is perfectly acceptable. If at any point in time you decide to reach out to your donor's family, Advancing Sight Network is here to support you in any way we can.

HERE'S HOW TO GET STARTED:

- 1.** Address your correspondence to: "Donor Family"
- 2.** On a separate sheet of paper, write your name, date of your transplant, and physician name so that we will know which donor family to send it to. This will not be sent with your correspondence.
- 3.** Mail to: **ADVANCING SIGHT NETWORK**
Attn: Correspondence Manager
500 Robert Jemison Road
Birmingham, AL 35209
- 4.** Advancing Sight Network will mail your correspondence to the donor family. We can assure you we will maintain all confidentiality.

If you have any questions please call
Advancing Sight Network at 888.639.1863
www.advancingsight.org
communications@advancingsight.org

TOPICS TO DISCUSS IN YOUR LETTER

Talk about yourself:

- Your job or occupation.
- Your family situation (spouse, children, grandchildren).
- Your hobbies or interests.

Talk about your transplant experience:

- Recognize the donor family and thank them for their gift.
- How has the transplant changed your life?
- What can you do now that you could not do before surgery?

Explain what has happened in your life and how your renewed vision has made it more meaningful:

- Did you experience celebrating a birthday in a new way?
- Did your son or daughter marry?
- Did you become a parent or grandparent?
- Did you return to school or accept a new job?

Enclose pictures of family:

- This is not required, but a picture can add a beautiful visual to your story.

In closing your card or letter:

- Sign your first name only.
- Do not reveal your address, city, phone number, name of surgery facility, or physician.



 Advancing Sight
Network®

You may or may not receive a response. Some donor families say writing about their loved one's donation helps with the grieving process. Other donor families may prefer privacy or may have difficulty talking about the donor. Please communicate in a sensitive manner.