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The Newspaper In Education Program is working with NJ Sharing Network to present this special series. More than 1.5 million Americans have their health restored each year through tissue donation. This series will examine tissue donation and transplantation from different angles.

Saving lives through organ & tissue donation

Is there a cut-off age for someone to become an organ and tissue donor?

There is no definitive age limit for organ or tissue donation. Adults in their nineties have been able to donate. A person's medical history is more important than age. Medical suitability is determined before proceeding with the recovery of organs and tissue.

VIP Corner

Jackie Lue Raia, Donor Daughter

"I was driving on the NJ Turnpike four years ago after picking my 68-year-old mother, Ena Lue, up at the airport. Our car was struck by a tractor trailer and my mother was killed. My family found solace by donating her organs and tissue to help others. My mom's gift of tissue has helped close to 50 people and her donated organs saved three lives. You are never too old or too young to save and enhance a life through organ and tissue donation. My mom truly illustrates the power of one decision."



Jackie Lue Raia

Today's Exercise:

Create a collage showing that age has no bearing on many activities. Be sure to use pictures from today's paper to illustrate your message.

What Can I Do?

In New Jersey, you must be 18 years or older to legally designate yourself a donor. Ask your friends and family who are at least 18 years old if they have officially said "YES" to donation.



For more information and age-appropriate educational materials, or to register as an organ and tissue donor, visit:

www.NJSharingNetwork.org or call 800-742-7365.