2025 National Donate Life Month Hospital Newsletter Article Template

**[Hospital Name] Honors the Gift of Organ and Tissue Donation During National Donate Life Month**

April is National Donate Life Month - a time to celebrate the power of organ and tissue donation, honor the selfless donors who have saved and enhanced lives, and inspire more people to register as donors. At [Hospital Name], we are proud to stand alongside our partners at NJ Sharing Network in championing this lifesaving mission.

Throughout April, we will join communities across the state in raising awareness about the critical need for organ and tissue donation and recognizing the incredible impact of donors and their families. This year, [Hospital Name] has planned [add specific initiatives] to encourage our team members, patients, and the community to learn more and take action.

Every day, lives are transformed through the gift of donation, yet the need remains great. More than 100,000 people across the country are waiting for a transplant, including nearly 4,000 here in New Jersey. At [Hospital Name], we see firsthand the hope that donation brings, and we remain committed to making a difference in the lives of those in need. Last year alone, our hospital helped save and enhance the lives of [add specific hospital numbers] individuals through organ and tissue donation.

***Deanna Noelle “Dee Dee” D’Arco***

***Organ and Tissue Donor***

*Deanna Noelle “Dee Dee” D’Arco of Vernon passed away on May 27, 2024, at just 19 years old, following a tragic car accident. A beloved teacher’s assistant at Little Learners Academy in Jefferson Township, Deanna was cherished by her students, remembered for giving the best hugs, and loved by all who knew her. Her vibrant spirit, compassionate nature, love for animals, and dedication to others left a lasting impression on everyone she met.

Deanna’s life, cut tragically short, continues to inspire others through the selfless act of organ and tissue donation. Her donated heart, liver, and kidney saved the lives of three people, giving them renewed hope and the chance to create new memories with their loved ones. Additionally, her tissue donations, including skin, bone, tendons, and corneas, will offer healing to those in need.

“Deanna has always been a hero to me, and now she can be a hero forever as an organ and tissue donor who saved lives,” said her father, Steven D’Arco, who served on the Paterson Fire Department for nearly 25 years. “This brings us some solace, knowing something positive can come from such an unimaginable loss.”

Deanna’s legacy was honored during a deeply emotional NJ Sharing Network flag-raising ceremony at Morristown Medical Center. Family, friends, hospital staff, and NJ Sharing Network representatives came together to pay tribute to her selfless spirit. This moment of remembrance highlighted the lasting impact Deanna continues to have through the gift of organ and tissue donation.

The D’Arco family has leaned heavily on NJ Sharing Network since Deanna’s passing.

“NJ Sharing Network has been with us every step of the way, and we are forever grateful for the support they’ve given us,” said Steven. “Their grief counseling has been invaluable. They’ve helped us process our loss and provided a path for hope and healing. It’s not just about our loss, but about what comes from it. Knowing that Deanna’s gifts gave life to others helps ease the pain.”*

**We hope you will join us in celebrating the gift of life during Donate Life Month. Here are just some ways you can get involved:**

* Celebrate those who have been touched by the gift of life and show your support by wearing blue and green—the colors of donation—on National Blue & Green Day:
**Friday, April 11.**

* Ask your local elected official to declare April as Donate Life Month in your town. Download a sample proclamation (and other resources) at <https://www.njsharingnetwork.org/dlm-hospitals/>.
* Visit <https://www.njsharingnetwork.org/dlm-hospitals/> to download graphics to share on social media throughout April in celebration of National Donate Life Month.

To learn more, get involved and register as an organ donor, visit [www.NJSharingNetwork.org](http://www.NJSharingNetwork.org).

***[Hospital logo*]**