

SAMPLE LETTER

Here is a sample letter with ideas to help you begin writing. This is intended as a resource and you should not feel that you have to follow the suggestions given.

Dear Donor Family,

Hello, my name is ___(first name only)____. I have tried many times to write a letter to you, but never felt that I could find the right words. I am the grateful recipient of your loved one's ___(organ)____.

Whenever I think about my transplant, I remember that you experienced a significant loss. For that I am very, very sorry.

Offer your condolences for the family's loss. Consider expressing gratitude that they chose to donate during a difficult time.

I am married and have ___ children.
I am single and have a dog...
I am in the ___ grade and...

Tell the donor family a little bit about yourself, your family, and what kinds of things you enjoy doing.

The reason I needed a transplant was...

Brief explanation is preferred.

Prior to my transplant I wasn't able to participate in...
Now I am able to enjoy...

Tell the family how you felt prior to the transplant and how you are doing now. Is there something you're able to do now that you were not able to do in the recent past? How does your family feel now that you've received the transplant?

I think about my donor everyday...
I pray for my donor and your family...
Every time I'm able to walk around the block...

Sign your first name only.

End the letter with a sentence or two about how you feel about your donor.