we are Sharing Hope SC

SOUTH CAROLINA ORGAN & TISSUE RECOVERY SERVICES

correspondence

WORKBOOK

We Are Honoring Legacies

sharinghopesc.org

“To send a letter is a good way to go somewhere, without moving anything but your heart.”

- PHYLLIS GRISSIM-THEROUX

A Letter from the Director of Communications

Dear South Carolina Donor Families,

In a moment of grief and despair, you made an incredibly personal and selfless decision on behalf of your loved one to give the gift of organ, eye, and tissue donation. Your strength, courage, and character brought hope to those awaiting a second chance at life. It is my hope that through the many aftercare programs offered by We Are Sharing Hope SC, you are reminded of the ripple effect of this gift and the immense impact of your loved one's legacy.

The We Are Sharing Hope SC Donor Family Aftercare team is dedicated to serving you on your grief journey. One of the many ways we care for our donor families is through support of the correspondence process, connecting with your loved one's recipient(s). We believe writing and sharing the stories of those we love are two of the most profound ways their legacy can continue to inspire. As we share, we remind others of the beauty in generosity.

Writing a personal letter and processing the many words you wish to share can seem daunting. I encourage you to use this workbook as a guide as you navigate the correspondence process, and know our team is always here to support you along the way. I am humbled to be on this journey with you and grateful for the opportunity to learn more about your loved one and South Carolina hero.

Krystal Cau
Director of Communications
cauk@sharinghopesc.org

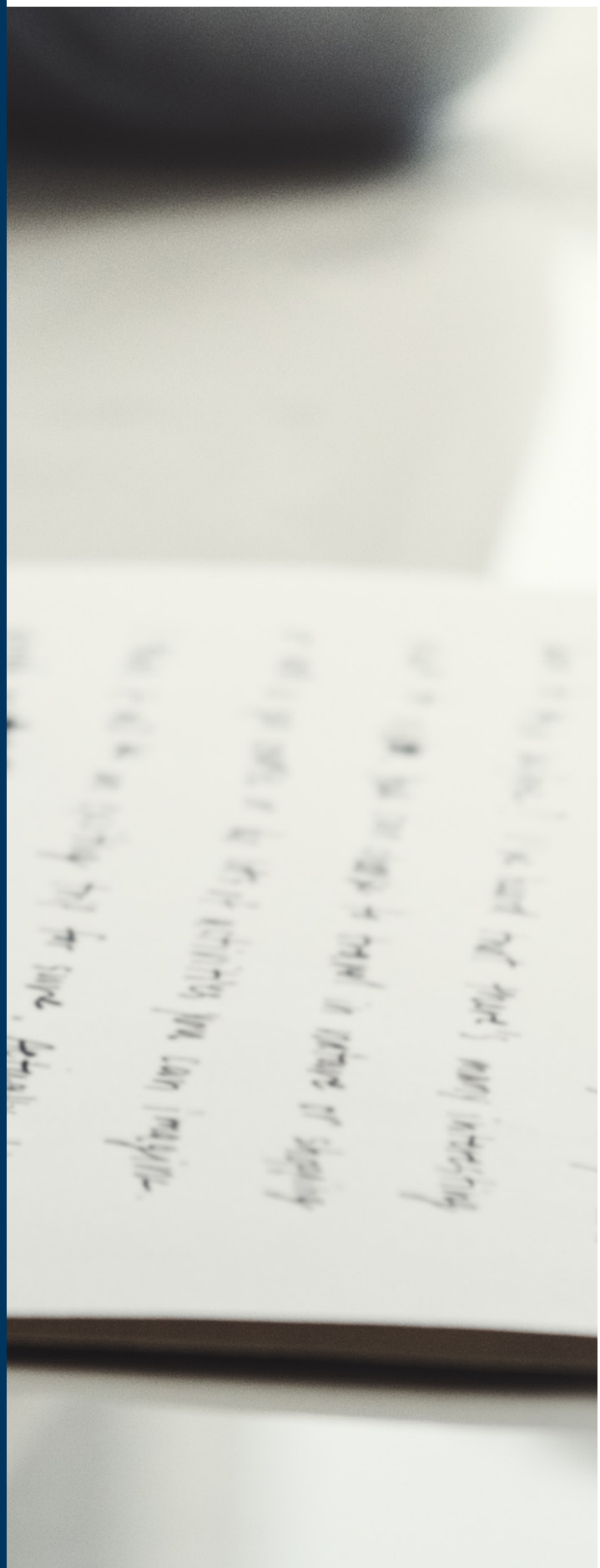
Donor Family *services*

South Carolina donor heroes and their families are the inspiration behind the mission of organ, eye, and tissue donation. Once a family leaves the hospital after a loss, they never leave the We Are Sharing Hope SC (SHSC) family.

The Donor Family Services (DFS) Aftercare program is designed to help families heal and find hope in donation. Connecting families to a community of donor families and providing opportunities to remember and honor their loved one, are a few ways DFS supports families on their journey. DFS Aftercare is comprised of compassionate professionals who journey alongside donor families, offering support and education in the days, weeks, months, and even years after losing their loved one.

One of the programs led by the DFS team is correspondence, or communication between the donor families and recipients who wish to connect with each other.

Correspondence between donor families and recipients is one of the many ways families may find hope and healing through their grief journey. The SHSC Aftercare team facilitates the correspondence process between both the family and recipient(s), offering support, if and when, families are ready to meet their loved one's recipient(s).



The Correspondence Process

1

Write a letter sharing the story of your loved one

Briefly introduce yourself

Give insight to your loved one's life (marital status, religious affiliation, children, grandchildren, pets, hobbies, profession, etc.)

Share what it means to know your loved one's legacy lives on

**Please refrain from including last names, addresses, phone numbers, social media info, and email information in your first piece of correspondence*

2

Send correspondence materials to We Are Sharing Hope SC

Mail your letter, card, photo(s), etc.

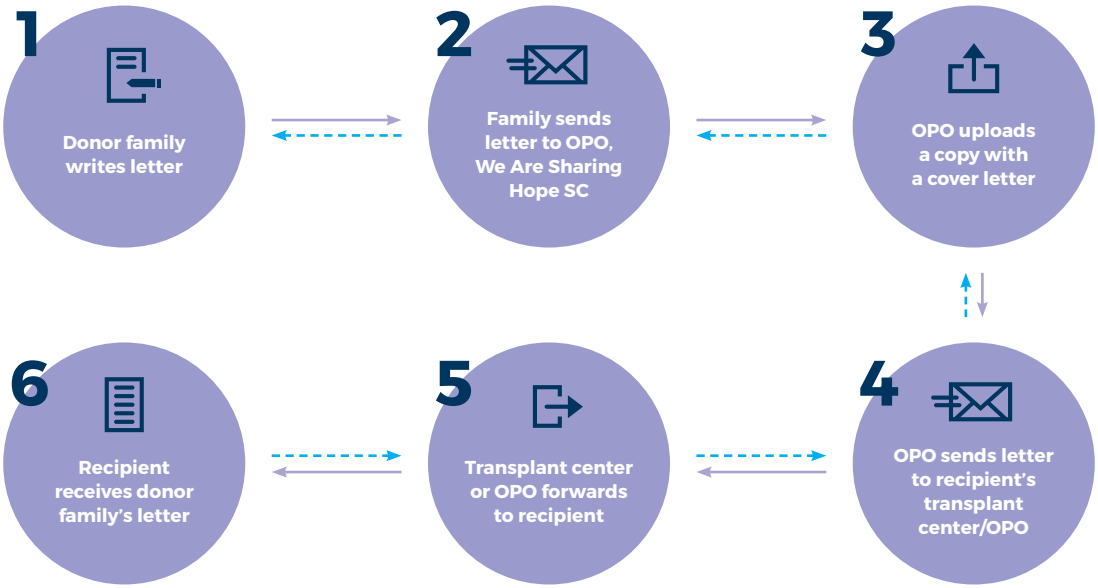
Please include a separate piece of paper with:

- Your first and last name
- Preferred contact number and/or email address
- Your loved one's first and last name
- The date your loved one passed

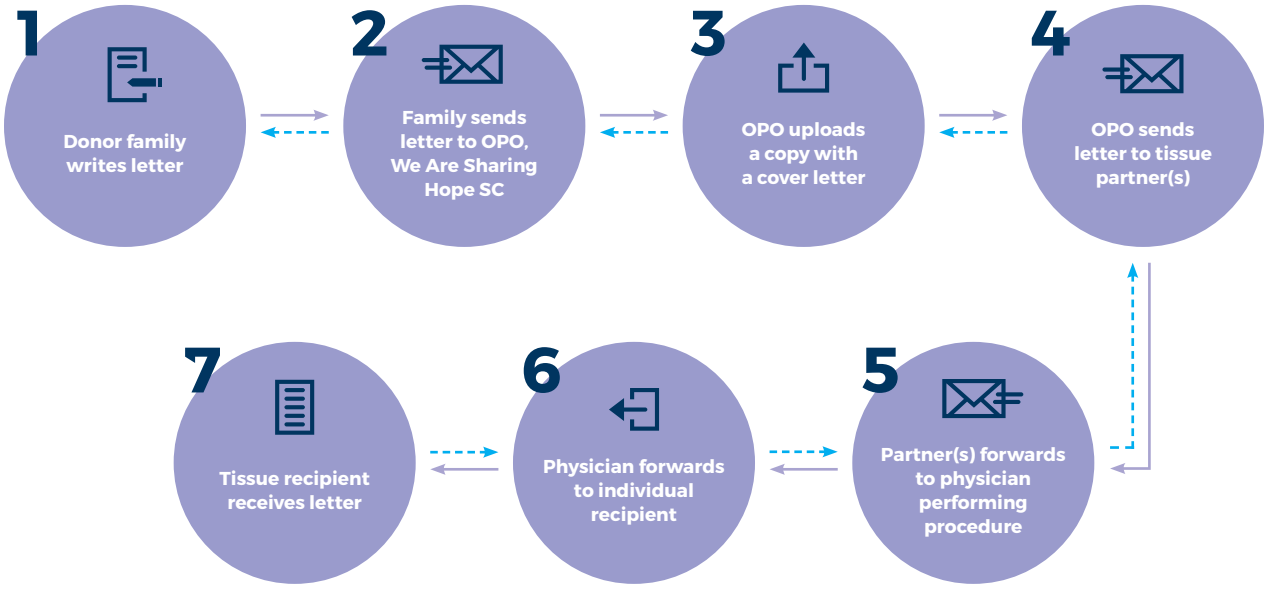
Mail to:

We Are Sharing Hope SC
Attn: Donor Family Services
2215 Henry Tecklenburg Drive
Charleston, SC 29414

organ DONOR FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE PROCESS



tissue DONOR FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE PROCESS



Writing Prompts to Help Begin Your Letter

Write three words that best describe your loved one.

Share a memory about your loved one that always makes you smile.

Describe something your loved one was passionate about.

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