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Finger February

by MATT WEBBER, PROGRAM COORDINATOR FOR COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Show us your finger!



This February we're kicking off one of our social media campaigns 'Show Us Your Finger' (Please, hold your snickering!). We're asking our wonderful supporters (That's you!) to snap a photo of themselves and their green, Donate Life Northwest foam fingers and share them on the [Donate Life Northwest Facebook page](#). Make sure to tag Donate Life Northwest in your photo. If you would like to tweet it, you can tag us (@DonateLifeNW) or use the hash-tag #FingerFebruary. Get pictures of you and your finger on the coast, in Machu Picchu, at a Trailblazers or Winterhawks game – get creative! We'll make sure to send a free t-shirt to our most interesting and creative photo contestants. Keep an eye out on our Facebook page this coming month as we've already had some great finger photos come in from across the Northwest and even NYC and Puerto Rico!?!?

To get your Donate Life Northwest foam finger, email webbema@ohsu.edu with your name and address.

Gather for Good

by ALEXIS ANDERSON, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

As you party down, hang out, cheer on or catch up with friends, you can collect contributions in fun ways. Gather for Good, and your guests can bring hope to the thousands who cannot party while they face the terrible wait for lifesaving transplants. Let us know your creative ideas, or consider:

Roll out the red carpet for your Academy Awards party. Nominations are in, and your guests can pick their winners, vie for best/worst dressed, and prepare their own acceptance speeches. Everyone will feel like a winner when they do their part to bring hope to those who wait.

March Madness brings three weeks of Gather for Good opportunities. As you analyze the brackets with your buddies and cheer on your favorite teams, you can: guesstimate how many players are on the courts thanks to donated ligaments; raise a toast to Memphis Assistant Coach and recent kidney donor, Robert Kirby; and keep a tip bowl with the chip bowl.

Out with the old, in with new – or the gently used. Refresh your collection and raise funds at a swap party with your maker mates, crafting crew, bibliophile buddies, or fellow fashionistas.

Host a Trivia Night, and let guests geek out with organ, eye and tissue donation questions.

Donate Life Northwest can provide trivia questions, donation/transplantation stories and information, and video highlighting the importance of organ, eye and tissue transplant, and our work to change the hearts and minds of those resistant to donation. Contact Alexis Anderson at andealex@ohsu.edu or 503.494.2289.



Already doing your part to support the work of Donate Life Northwest? Here's a simple way to do a bit more: just link your Fred Meyer Rewards Card at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards to earn contributions for Donate Life Northwest — while still earning your own Rewards as usual.

Ambassador Opportunities

Donate Life 101: New Ambassador Orientation

We're branching out and hitting the road in 2014 and it all starts this month! One of our goals in 2014 is to hold trainings and orientations all across Oregon. Having just had orientations in Eugene and Vancouver, WA – we're going to focus on the greater-metro region in February and then head down to Southern Oregon in March. Don't worry Central and Eastern, Oregon – we're headed your way soon.

Donate Life NW is holding a volunteer orientation each week in February. We'll be in Salem on **February 11**, Clackamas on **February 13**, Portland on **February 25**, and Beaverton on **February 26**. [Check out our calendar](#) to RSVP or find one of our March events. We hope you can join us soon!



School Presentations

If you are a Volunteer Educator in our School Speakers Bureau, remember to check your emails for announcements about school presentations. We appreciate your invaluable support!

Star of the Month

by ALEXIS ANDERSON, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



Our super star of the month is an unassuming hero, who asked us not to use his last name. A little more than four years ago, Dave (pictured at left with his son atop Mount St. Helens) was winding down his IT career and looking forward to spending time with his grandkids. **Some folks kick off their retirement with travel plans, but Dave had another idea.**

He had just come across a TV show about kidney disease, and was moved by the stories of those struggling to survive on dialysis. As Dave considered how lucky he was to be healthy, the show profiled a living donor who talked about the great feeling of saving a life. Though Dave had never met anyone who needed a kidney, he and his wife soon completed an initial donor interview process, and made the decision together. A few more weeks of medical testing and waiting for a match, **then Dave was in for a quick**

surgery – and a stranger received the gift of life.

Dave was backpacking and running again in a matter of weeks, and he jokes that it takes longer to recover from a weekend with his grandkids. He had no expectations, but was pleased to learn the recipient welcomed his own grandchild soon after the lifesaving transplant.

After giving a kidney to a stranger, Dave now volunteers his time as an active ambassador, and he also budgets carefully to contribute financial support. **He doesn't want our thanks, but we can all celebrate Dave's remarkable three-fold contributions, and the fourth anniversary of his kidney donation!**

Welcome Aimeé Adelmann!

by SARAH SALTER, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Please help us in extending a warm welcome to our newest team member, Program Specialist for Education Initiatives, Aimee Adelmann! Aimee has had many experiences with health care both as a patient and an employee. Her most recent interest in public health comes from working with school-based health centers. Aimee is not a new addition to Donate Life Northwest. She has been a volunteer since her second transplant in 2011. She is a recipient of both a living donation from her dad and a deceased donor.

Aimee will be assisting in school outreach and education to schools across Oregon. She will be coordinating the Schools Speaker Bureau as well dabbling in a social media, and other small projects. She is excited to educate Oregon youth about donation and transplantation, and tell her story across the state.

Aimee is looking forward to meeting all of the Donate Life Northwest community, donors, and recipients! She can be reached at 503.494.7836 or adelmaai@ohsu.edu.

