



Writing to the Recipient of Your Loved One's Cornea: Helpful Guidelines

Florida Lions Eye Bank, a fully EBAA-accredited, not-for-profit eye bank, was founded in 1962. Our primary mission is to recover, process, and distribute corneal tissue for sight-saving transplant surgery. To make this happen, Florida Lions Eye Bank relies upon the selflessness of the individuals and their families who choose to donate their eyes upon their death. Last year, the beauty of sight was restored to 1,620 cornea transplant recipients thanks to the generosity of people such as your loved one.

As you heal from the loss of your loved one, the transplant recipient is healing from their surgery. Donor families are invited to write to the recipient(s) of their loved ones' cornea(s) if they choose to do so. Many donor families find comfort in reaching out to the recipient of their loved one's extraordinary gift.

The decision to contact your loved one's cornea recipient is a personal one. There is no obligation to write, and there is no deadline for making contact: you may reach out today, six months from now, or next year. If you choose to write to the recipient, Florida Lions Eye Bank is happy to facilitate this correspondence. We ask that you follow these simple guidelines.

- All initial correspondence must go through Florida Lions Eye Bank for the protection of your identity.
- We request that you remain anonymous. Do not include the following information in your letter:

- Last name
- Address
- Name of workplace
- Telephone number or email address
- Other identifying information

- Feel free to include the following information:

- Your first name and the first name of the donor
- Your relationship to the donor
- The city and state in which you live
- Your hobbies and interests, and the donor's hobbies and interests
- Funny or touching stories about the donor
- Anything else you like! (As long as you remain anonymous)



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- Please write your full name and the donor's name on a post-it note or a separate piece of paper, and put it in the envelope with your letter. This will allow us to forward the letter to the correct cornea recipient without exposing your identity.
- If the recipient of your loved one's tissue chooses to respond to your letter, their correspondence will be handled in the same manner and sent to you anonymously through Florida Lions Eye Bank.
- All correspondence received is considered highly confidential and will only be read by Florida Lions Eye Bank staff, and the cornea recipient.

Please send all correspondence to the following address:

Florida Lions Eye Bank
900 NW 17th Street
Suite 348
Miami, FL 33136

You may also email your letter(s) to info@fleeb.org. We will print your letter directly from the email and anonymously mail the letter to the recipient.

Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions.