CELEBRATING THE LIVES OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS WHO HAVE RECEIVED A LIFESAVING TRANSPLANT

On the evening of October 24th, 300 supporters of The Living Bank listened to the stories of several young adults and one pint-size young man who received lifesaving transplants along with Cooper Hanks mom, since Cooper, a liver recipient, is only 4-years old and it was past his bedtime.

The honorees for the celebration were Houston philanthropists and dedicated volunteers, Mary Ann and David McKeithan. The honorary chair was Beth Wolff. Kathi and Bill Rovere served as the chairs and Nancy and Hans Strohmer served as the co-chairs.

Thank you to all those that attended our 2014 Celebrate Life, Small Miracles. Your support is vital to the success of our mission. To view more photographs of the event please go to: www.livingbank.org or visit our Facebook page: facebook.com/TheLivingBank
TRANSPLANT GAMES OF AMERICA CAME TO HOUSTON
Over 81% of individuals on the National Organ Transplant Waiting List are waiting for a kidney. In response to the shortage of deceased donor kidneys, relatives, loved ones, friends and even individuals who wish to remain anonymous may serve as living kidney donors. Living-donor kidney transplantation allows an individual to donate one of two healthy kidneys to a kidney failure patient.

The Transplant Games of America are a multi-sport event held once every two years. Cities across the nation compete to host the games through a grant process. The Harris County Houston Sports Authority submitted a grant proposal in 2012 and were awarded the 2014 games. Houston had over 3,700 people participate in the Games, the largest number since the inception of the event.

National Organ Transplant Waiting List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organ</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liver</td>
<td>16,269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pancreas</td>
<td>1,178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidney/Pancreas</td>
<td>2,099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart</td>
<td>4,053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung</td>
<td>1,682</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart/Lung</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intestine</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*as of October 24, 2014

Please register as an organ donor.
Leslie is a beautiful young woman who came close to dying when she was a child. She was not a sick child, rarely ever missing a day of school. One morning when Leslie was 8-years old she became gravely ill and was transported by a Life Flight helicopter to Texas Children’s Hospital where she was diagnosed with meningococcal meningitis.

Fighting the battle to live, Leslie spent two months in the hospital, where she was in a coma and on life support. Slowly her body began to recover from the meningitis everything that is, except her kidneys.

Leslie was originally told that she would need a kidney transplant at age 16, but with a very strict diet and positive lifestyle choices, Leslie was able to hold off transplantation for an additional two years. At 18, Leslie began the pre-transplant tests. She learned that her dad was an excellent match and he donated a kidney to her, which they affectionately named Neal after her father’s middle name.

Today, Leslie is a student in Health Communications, Biochemistry and Pre-med at the University of Houston. Her long-term goals include medical school and a master’s in public health,
There are places in your heart you don’t even know exist until you love a child.

Two of the small miracles whose stories were told at our October 24th event were Gavin Morgan and Cooper Hanks. Both received their lifesaving transplant at Texas Children’s Hospital.

Cooper Hanks is a miracle baby. Cooper was diagnosed with Biliary Atresia a life-threatening condition. At 16-months, Cooper needed and received a liver transplant. He is now a healthy 4-year old who has lots of energy. Cooper’s mom, Kristen shared with our audience, “I still check his eyes every day to see if he’s okay. I think I’ll do that forever! At first his Dad and I asked why this was happening. Transplant saved Cooper’s life and what a miracle that is. We believe that Cooper will grow up with an appreciation of organ donors and life.”

Gavin Morgan, holding a cow bell led the way to the stage opening the event stating, “please be seated, thank you.”

His mom and dad, Heather and Wade, learned that Gavin had a life-threatening hole in his heart before he was born. At the age of 3 months, he received a heart transplant at Texas Children’s Hospital. Gavin is now 8 years old and his mom says, “it’s hard to keep up with him.”

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Denman Moody, one of America’s most knowledgeable wine authorities and Elizabeth Stone, Silver Stone Events contributed our silent auction wine tasting experience.

TUTS Humphreys School of Musical Theatre delighted the audience with their spirited musical performance.

Elizabeth Stone, Silver Stone Events, Marcie Tautenhahn, and Denman Moody
ILDAN is an online networking community of clergy, nurses, professional counselors, psychologists and social workers who work as independent living donor advocates.

Thank you to presenters:

Christine F. Hines
LCSW, CCT
UC San Diego Health System

Dr. Michael C. Braun
Texas Children’s Hospital

Sherry Grogan NP
Houston Methodist

Janna S. Gordon-Elliot MD
Weill Cornell Medical College

Tonya Frazier RN
UCLA Health

Paula Zimbrean MD
Yale New Haven Hospital

Courtenay Bruce JD, MA
Baylor College of Medicine

The Living Bank’s Living Donor Forum will be launched in 2015. The Forum is dedicated to maintaining an online community where living donors will communicate areas of interest that are unique to only their lives. The Forum is being developed as a secure forum and moderated by professionals in the field of living donation.

Funded by:
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THANK YOU
INDEPENDENT LIVING DONOR ADVOCATE NETWORK (ILDAN)
The Living Bank’s Independent Living Donor Advocate Network (ILDAN) is an online networking community of social workers, psychologists, physicians, nurses and clergy who work as independent living donor advocates. ILDAN offers professional development, solutions, collaboration and peer support through live webinars, videos of instruction and forums.

If you would like to participate, please register with us at livingbank.org/ilda-network

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