About the quilt...

Since 2001, hundreds of families have created quilt squares for the LifeLink® Donor Memorial Quilt. The quilt is divided up into panels, each typically representing quilt squares from a twelve-month period of time sewn into a unique design. This quilt is an ongoing memorial created in honor of organ and tissue donors by their loved ones.

Quilt squares are detailed with memories of each donor’s life and may include a photograph, meaningful symbols, special fabric and embroidery.

The quilt travels to events throughout the year to pay tribute to donors and their families, and to share the message of organ and tissue donation with the public. The LifeLink Donor Memorial Quilt is a project of LifeLink, and is open to all families whose loved ones have donated organs and tissues through LifeLink or any of our recovery partners. This quilt is designed to commemorate the lives of deceased donors. For ideas to honor living donors, please contact your local transplant center.

Opportunities to View the Quilt

Panels are displayed throughout the year at LifeLink’s headquarters in Tampa, as well as other LifeLink buildings. Quilt visibility reminds employees and visitors of those who have given the Gift of Life. Additionally, quilt panels travel to special events such as the Services of Remembrance, National Donate Life Month celebrations, community outreach events and professional education opportunities. Many of these events are listed in LifeLink’s online calendar of events, and you may learn of others by contacting LifeLink’s public affairs department.

Most of the time, the entire quilt is not displayed at every event. If you wish to view a particular quilt square, please contact us and we will make every effort to assist you. We are also happy to email photographs of entire quilt panels and individual squares to interested parties.
How to make a quilt square

Suggestions & Instructions:

- Take your time designing your quilt square. Determine what reminds you most of your loved one. Consult friends and family members for assistance.

- Use the size guide in this brochure to design your square. Your square must measure 8x8 inches and have a 3/4-inch border all the way around.

- Your square must be made of fabric. You can use any type of fabric, but cotton is preferred. You may decorate with any medium you like, including embroidery, permanent markers, paint or photos.

- You may wish to transfer photos onto your fabric with special paper available at craft supply stores.

- Please note: Glitter, stickers, crayons and glue can easily fall off your artwork or dissolve. Please refrain from using these items.

- You may note your loved one’s name, dates of birth and passing, sentimental quotes or sayings on your square. Please sew items securely, or write in permanent marker.

- Please do not finish the square with backing or quilting. We will take care of that for you.

- To ensure all squares are included, we ask you to submit only one square per family.

- There is no deadline, the quilt is never finished. We will continue to add quilt panels in remembrance of donors and their loved ones.

Send quilt squares to the LifeLink office for your state, found on the back of this brochure, addressed to:

LifeLink Family Services

Please send your quilt square certified mail or other trackable carrier, such as UPS or Fed Ex. Please be sure to include the donor’s full name and date of donation. Please also include your name, address and phone number with the square. This information will be kept confidential. We would like to provide you with a confirmation of receipt for your quilt square. If you do not receive confirmation in 6-8 weeks, please notify LifeLink Family Services.

About LifeLink

LifeLink is the non-profit organ and tissue recovery organization serving west and southwest Florida, Georgia, two counties in South Carolina, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. We facilitate life-saving donation for generous individuals, and their families, who have chosen to be organ and tissue donors throughout our federally designated service areas. LifeLink is committed to supporting the wishes of organ and tissue donors and grieving families in their decision to provide the Gift of Life by providing information about donation, answering questions and facilitating the donation process.