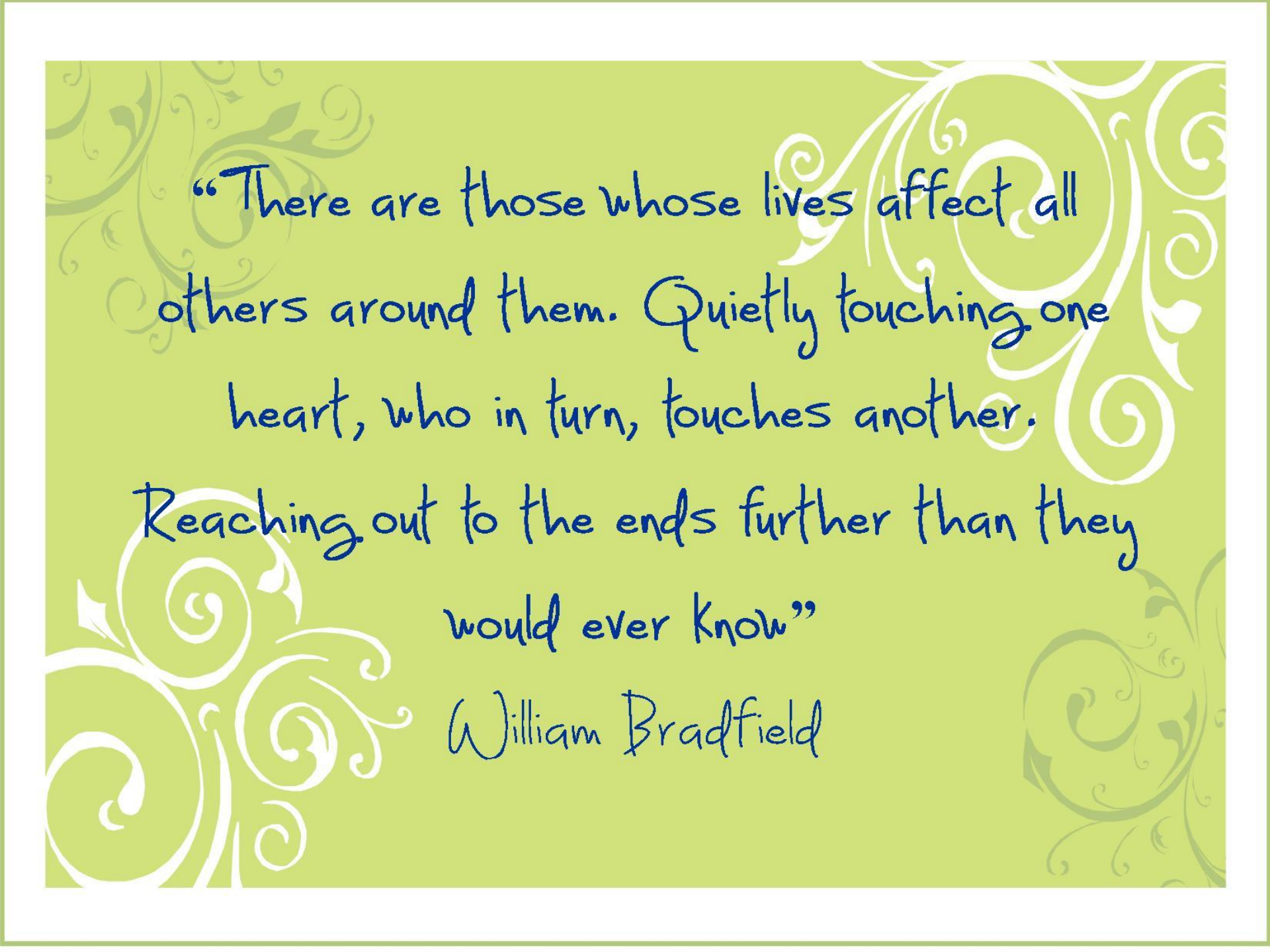


# Collaboration in the Donation Process

## Karen Kennedy, BSN, RN, CPTC, CTBS, CHSE

### November 1, 2016



“There are those whose lives affect all others around them. Quietly touching one heart, who in turn, touches another.

Reaching out to the ends further than they would ever know”

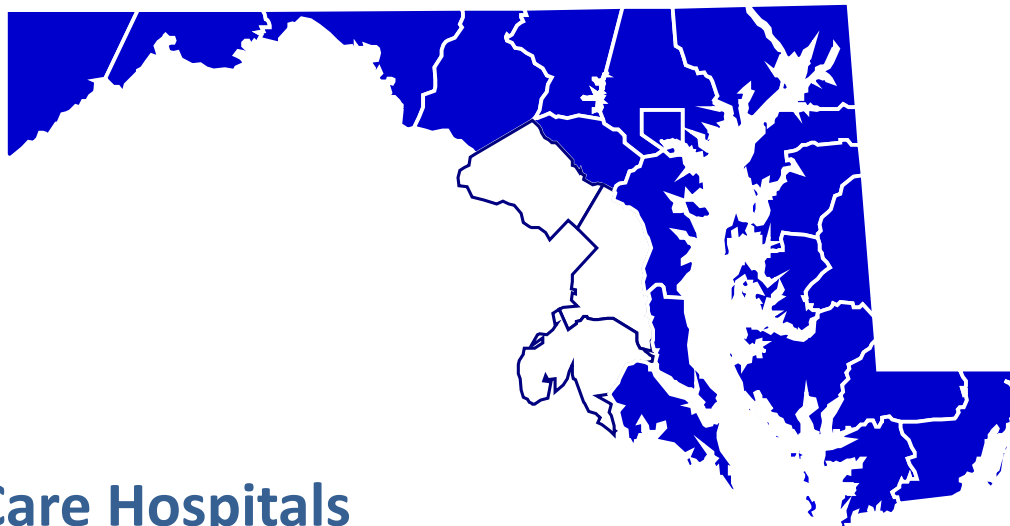
William Bradfield

# Good People, Doing Good Things





# Our Service Area



**34 Acute Care Hospitals**

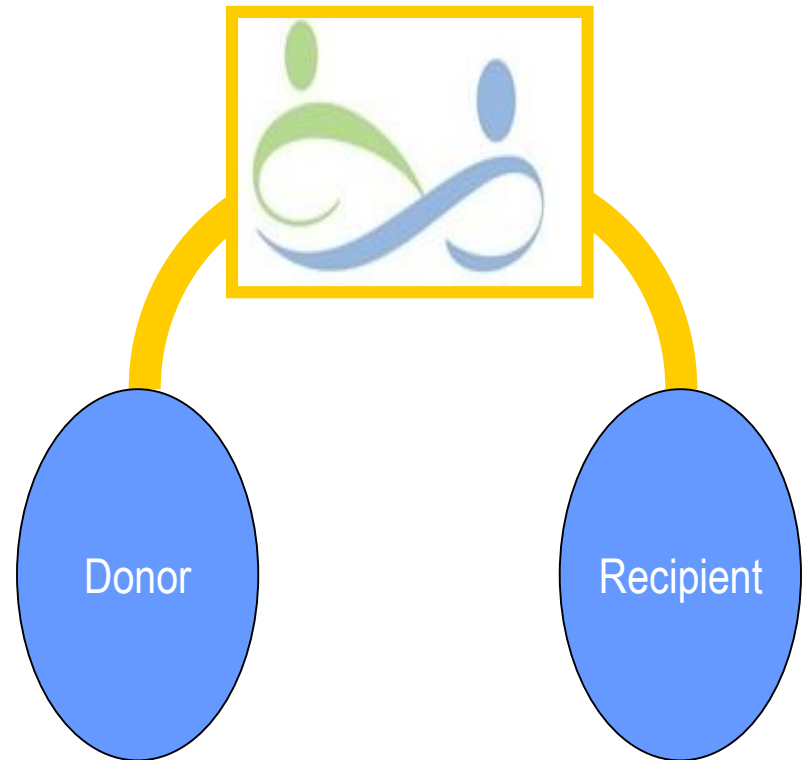
**2 Transplant Centers: The Johns Hopkins Hospital**

**University of Maryland Medical Systems**

**White areas indicate counties that are served by the  
Washington Regional Transplant Community**

# LLF's Responsibilities

- Evaluate medical suitability
- Offer families donation options
- Provide comprehensive support services
- Collaborate with donor hospital colleagues
- Manage clinical needs of donors
- Participate in surgical recoveries
- Increase donor awareness through education



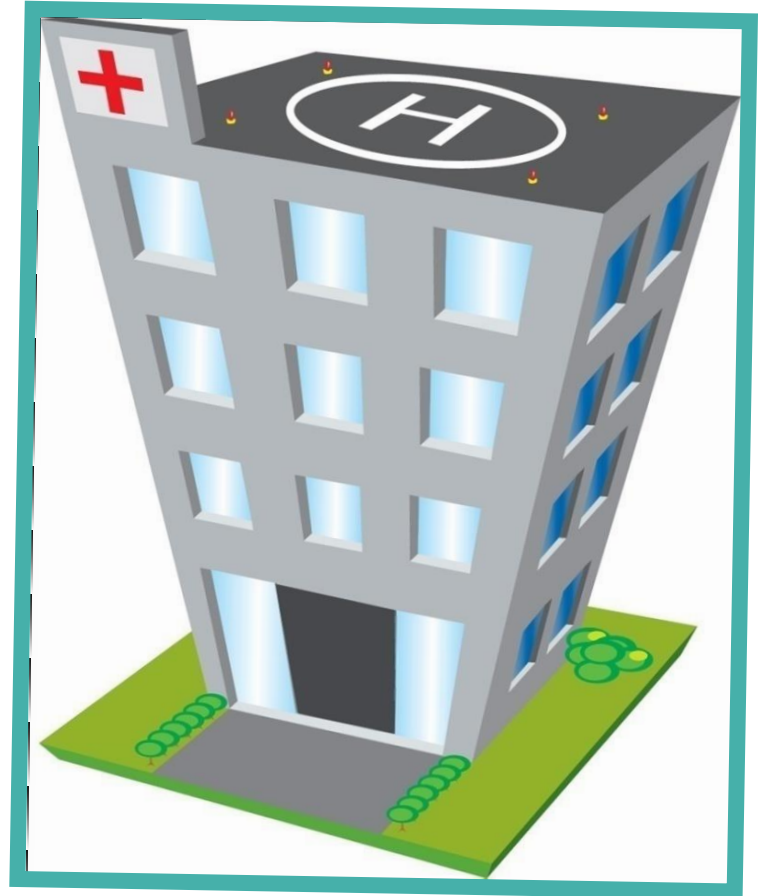
# The Organ Donation Process

- Referral of Potential Donors
- Medical Suitability Evaluation
- Authorization Process
- Clinical Donor Management
- Allocation of Organs
- Surgical Recovery



# Donor Hospital Referrals

- Hospitals policies guide staff through the referral process
- LLF and donor hospital teams collaborate in all phases of the donation process



# Uniform Determination of Death Act

## Background

- The President's Commission report on "guidelines for the determination of death"<sup>2</sup> culminated in a proposal for a legal definition that led to the Uniform Determination of Death Act (UDDA). The act reads:
  - "An individual who has sustained either 1) irreversible cessation of circulatory and respiratory functions, or 2) irreversible cessation of all functions of the entire brain, including the brain stem, is dead.
  - A determination of death must be made with accepted medical standards."<sup>3</sup>

# Two Forms of Organ Donation

## Organ Donation after Brain Death

- Patient manifests a non-survivable neurologic insult which results in irreversible loss of all functions of the brain, including the brain stem
- Declared brain dead through hospital policy, and in accordance with state laws
- Patient can potentially donate all solid organs and tissues

# Two Forms of Organ Donation

## Organ Donation after Cardiac Death

- Patients on mechanical ventilation for whom there is clinical prediction death will occur within 1-2 hours of withdrawal
- Families have made the decision to withdraw life-sustaining therapies
- Organ and tissue donation can occur after withdrawal and declaration of death

# American Academy of Neurology Guidelines

## NEUROLOGY

**Evidence-based guideline update: Determining brain death in adults: Report of the  
Quality Standards Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology**  
Eelco F.M. Wijdicks, Panayiotis N. Varelas, Gary S. Gronseth and David M. Greer  
*Neurology* 2010;74;1911-1918  
DOI: 10.1212/WNL.0b013e3181e242a8

# Brain Death Evaluation and Testing

- Based on a patient's clinical exam, healthcare team determines if/when it is appropriate to begin brain death evaluation and testing
- Indicated when ongoing monitoring and evaluation reveals patient has no signs of neuro function
- Each hospital has policies for brain death testing
- American Academy of Neurology publishes standards adopted by hospitals and practitioners to guide testing

# Considerations in the Neuro Clinical Exam

- Keen observation and assessment of patient
- Review of responses to all reflexes, such as: cough, gag, pupillary, and corneal
- Determination of no spontaneous respiratory effort
- Absence of confounding factors, such as drug overdose or hypothermia

# Brain Death Declaration

- Must be documented in accordance with hospital policy
- The death certificate should reflect the time of brain death declaration
- Notes must include all aspects of clinical and/or confirmatory exams
- Time of declaration is the time of death

# The Authorization Process

- The LLF and hospital team follow national best practices related to the donation process
- Huddle with hospital staff to create a plan for the best time and manner to offer donation options
- Provide support to families considering donation
- Share information regarding donation process to families in a sensitive and respectful manner
- Offer ongoing resources for the family
- Honor designated donor's first person authorization

# Donor Family Support

- Comprehensive services offered to all families
- Tailored to meet each family's unique needs
- Services provided throughout donation process and well beyond



# End of Life Care Simulation

## Roles

- Patient: Ricky Foles
- Parent: Laurel Gaffney as Mary Foles
- Attending Physician: Dr. Shah
- Nurse: Tyree Nutter
- Supportive Services: Chaplain Ruth Smith
- Family Services Coordinator: Heba Youssef

# Admission Information

- 24 year old male admitted to Intensive Care Unit
- Sustained a gunshot wound to head in back of ear and bullet exited his right eye
- Incident occurred as patient and his cousin were leaving a convenience store
- Paramedics called immediately and upon arrival to the scene, patient's coma scale was rated the lowest score (3)
- Paramedics intubated patient at the scene and then transferred him to the hospital
- Admission computerized tomography (CT) scan showed bilateral subarachnoid and intracerebral bleed with midline shift and ventricular compression
- Neuro exam revealed weak cough and respirations
- PMH: none

# Clinical Picture

- Over past two days, patient has shown no signs of neurological improvement
- Remains on the lowest end of the coma scale
- Being treated with medical measures to decrease his intracranial pressure and to maintain his blood pressure
- Neurosurgery consulted and did not feel surgical interventions would be beneficial
- Brainstem reflexes no longer present, vital signs unstable and formal brain death testing planned
- Dr. Jones, off-going Attending, has informed patient's mother of plan to continue efforts to stabilize patient's vital signs and for brain death testing in the morning by Dr. Shah

# Brain Death Testing and Family Meeting

- Dr. Shah, on-coming Attending, has conducted the Clinical Exam with Apnea Test which is consistent with brain death
- Time of Death is 1015
- Dr. Shah to inform mother of patient's brain death
- The Family Services Coordinator to facilitate donation conversation with mother, when appropriate

## Social History

- Mother
  - Unemployed
  - Has raised 5 children
  - Has no medical background
  - Two family members have died due to gunshot wounds
  - Baptist, very strong faith base, and has been praying loudly at bedside