



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **NJ SHARING NETWORK HOSTS 5K CELEBRATION OF LIFE IN NEW PROVIDENCE TO HONOR, TO REMEMBER AND TO GIVE HOPE**

***New Jersey non-profit organization gears up for 5K Walk and USATF  
Certified Race on June 4 to raise awareness for organ and tissue  
donation***

**NEW PROVIDENCE, NJ** – Just one year after receiving a double lung transplant, Darryl Price, 55, of Denville, will be running in NJ Sharing Network’s event to celebrate the gift of life with his new pair of lungs. The 5K Celebration of Life honors those who gave the gift of life, pays tribute to those who have received a transplant, offers hope to those currently waiting for a transplant and remembers those who passed away while waiting for the gift of life.

NJ Sharing Network, the non-profit organization responsible for the recovery of organs and tissue for over 4,000 New Jersey residents awaiting life-saving transplants, kicked off the 5K Celebration of Life on April 2 in Paramus and continued down the shore on May 7 in Long Branch. The event will conclude with the 5K Walk and USATF Certified Race on Sunday, June 4, hosted at NJ Sharing Network’s headquarters, 691 Central Avenue in New Providence, NJ.

“We appreciate the thousands of participants, donor families, transplant recipients, those waiting for a transplant, volunteers, sponsors and community and hospital partners who

make the 5K Celebration of Life possible every year,” said NJ Sharing Network President and CEO, Joe Roth. “It is an incredible event with an outpouring of support that enables us to share our live-saving mission even further.”

Others, like Price, have personal connections to organ and tissue donation that will bring them to New Providence on June 4:

- Team Latincsics celebrates the memory of Andy Latincsics from Newton who gave the gift of life to others as a tissue donor in 2016. Latincsics ran at the 2015 and 2016 events with his daughter, Molly, and son, Tyler, to honor a colleague who received a heart transplant. This year, Molly will be running with Tyler in their father’s memory with the goal of making this her fastest 5K race. Molly chose the team’s motto with a double meaning for grief and running because of her father’s background as a teacher, coach and runner: It doesn’t get easier, you just get stronger.
- Cindy’s Six celebrates the memory of Cindy Mahoney, a Summit EMS member who saved six lives as an organ donor in 2016. Led by the current Chief of Summit EMS, Kari Phair, the team consists of Mahoney’s family, friends and colleagues.
- Heart Success Walkers teamed up with the Fanwood Scotch Plains Rotary Club to support NJ Sharing Network’s mission. The team is led by Dan Weiniger, a Westfield resident who is currently waiting for a heart transplant.

The goal of the 5K Celebration of Life is to raise \$1.25 million this year to support the Foundation’s mission of increasing the number of lives saved through innovative transplant research, family support, education and public awareness about the life-saving benefits of organ and tissue donation and transplantation.

Celebrating 30 years of saving lives, NJ Sharing Network saved more lives than ever before by making 613 transplants possible in 2016, a 16 percent increase from 2015. Tissue donation also restored health to an unprecedented number of people with a 10 percent increase from the previous year.

Today, there are over 120,000 people waiting for a transplant and 22 die each day, but one organ donor can save eight lives and one tissue donor can restore health to over 75 others. In New Jersey, one person dies every three days waiting for an organ transplant.

New Jersey residents can help save lives by registering as an organ and tissue donor, having a conversation with family and friends and joining NJ Sharing Network at its upcoming events. To learn more, sign up for the 5K Celebration of Life and register as an organ and tissue donor, visit [www.NJSharingNetwork.org](http://www.NJSharingNetwork.org).