



*Volunteer*



**New England  
Donor Services**

*Organ and Tissue Donation*

## Sharing Your Story - Presentation Tips

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Volunteers participate in a variety of speaking engagements and media events. Your story helps others better understand how donation and transplantation affects people right in their own community. Some people have a lot of experience with public speaking; however, sharing a personal experience can be quite different than presenting for work or class. Here are some tips to consider as you prepare your talk.

Be positive!

Be prepared - make an outline of your talk and practice.

Leave time for questions and don't go over your allotted time.

Wear your Volunteer lanyard and badge, and introduce yourself as a Volunteer with New England Donor Services or Donate Life.

Use humor carefully and with tact. Transplantation and donation can be difficult subjects to discuss. Humor is usually well received and can engage your audience, but use humor only if you are comfortable doing so and if it is appropriate.

Remember to pause every once in a while, especially if you become emotional. Your audience will be understanding and will wait for you.

If you are being interviewed answer the question being asked rather than telling your story all at once. By the end of your interview you will most likely have shared most of your story.

Your story makes a difference! You will inspire others to consider donation. You can address some stats and facts, ones that will be meaningful to your audience, but the most important part of your talk is your story.

Call to action! Let people know how they can help by: 1. Sign up online @ [www.RegisterMe.org](http://www.RegisterMe.org) (or in health app on iPhone); 2. Sign up when you apply for and each time you renew your driver's license or state ID; 3. Share your decisions with family and friends.

Thank your audience at the end of your talk.

Photos - showing a photo or two can be helpful when sharing your story.

PowerPoint - slides are available if you'd like to show them during your talks.

Follow up - tell us about your talk!