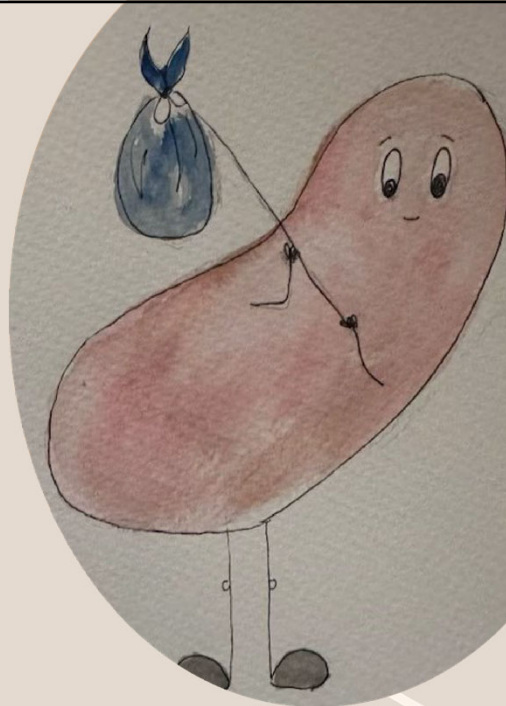


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Miss Bean



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Celebrating the harvest.

OCTOBER 23, 2024

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## Day 6 of Recovery



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## Avera Transplant Team

DR. SACPAL



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## Jodi's 20<sup>th</sup> Donation Anniversary



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Marcia Hultman  
Pierre, SD 57501

August 18, 2025

Dear Recipient,

I sincerely hope this letter finds you doing well. I can't begin to imagine the physical and possibly emotional changes you have faced in the months since your transplant. This letter is meant to share a little bit about me and to see if you would like to initiate communications.

Let me start by saying, being a living donor has been a great blessing, and I have never regretted my decision for one second. In order to donate, I needed to lose weight, which inspired me to take better care of my own health leading to some long-term positive lifestyle changes. More importantly though, through being a donor I have heard dozens of amazing stories about others who have donated and those who have received a kidney. I have been surprised to learn how many lives have been changed through this process, and I am honored to be a part of this group.

Immediately after our surgeries, I was desperate to know more about you but felt you had enough to deal with as you healed. I had even drafted a letter to you prior to donation, but I never sent it. As I looked at that letter today, I can't believe how much of that initial message wasn't relevant. I doubt you really care that I love to bake, but after receiving my kidney I wouldn't be surprised if you occasionally have a strong craving for chocolate chip cookies.

All that matters is that you are doing okay. The Avera team was good about giving me general updates on your progress, and I let my imagination fill in the rest of your possible background and story. As almost a year has passed, I no longer find myself in dire need to know your history. However, I would still like an opportunity to learn as much as you would care to share about your story.

By knowing a little about you, I selfishly feel like my own story will be complete.

Please take care.  
Marcia Hultman

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