

Christine's Story



Christine is a busy mother of two and a dedicated high school English teacher, directing her school's internship program for students to gain hands-on and practical experience for transition to college or beyond. She's a self-professed "Zumba Junkie" and enjoys spending time outdoors with her newly adopted rescue dog Sassy. She's used to going full steam ahead, until she began noticing pain and loss of vision clarity when transitioning to and from direct sunlight.

For Christine, the change in her vision came at a time when she wasn't sleeping well at night and as she didn't have a history of vision issues, she tolerated the problem for some time before seeing an ophthalmologist. Her doctor discovered she had

Fuch's Dystrophy and the cells in her corneas were so swollen and crowded she would need emergency laser surgery in her left eye to reduce the pressure and save her sight. Cataracts added to her vision problem, and the trauma to her corneas removing them, led to the need for an immediate cornea transplant in her left eye.

Christine received the transplant using corneal tissue recovered from a donor shortly after their passing. This new cornea has allowed Christine to return to her active lifestyle with better vision and no pain. Eventually, she will have a second surgery on her right eye, but for now her vision and quality of life has improved dramatically.

As Christine puts it: **"This surgery is really symbolic to me—I'm really seeing the world through different eyes and I'm so very thankful for the kindness of the donor and their family in making my Gift of Sight possible."**



In loving memory and tribute to the compassionate and generous Gift of Sight to people in need.

Every year, thousands of people are affected by a treatable form of blindness, and through the gracious decision to donate, these individuals gain the priceless and life-changing gift of sight. Choosing to become a donor is choosing to be part of the solution to eliminate corneal blindness. Thank you on behalf of CorneaGen and cornea recipients.