

Mother of cornea recipient shares

by Clayton Clark, Saving Sight

Gentry Howard, a four-year-old from Raymore, Mo., was born with glaucoma, a disease that causes increased pressure within the eye. In addition to glaucoma, she was also born with a protruding left cornea and Peters' anomaly, which caused an opaque cornea. As a result, Gentry was born blind. After cornea transplantation and more than twenty eye surgeries, Gentry is able to see today. "It's amazing where we started at compared to what Gentry's able to do now," said Becky Howard, Gentry's mother.

Because generous donors and donor families said yes to donation, "Gentry has the chance to grow up like everyone else," Becky said. "My daughter couldn't see if it weren't for donation and the generosity of people and families who agree to donation." In order to express her gratitude, Becky has written to the families whose loved ones donated the gift of sight to Gentry. And she and her daughter have also become committed supporters of Saving Sight and donation. Becky spoke about the transplant experience and Gentry handed out roses to donor families at University of Kansas Hospital's Rose Dedication Ceremony, a National Donate Life Month event in the Kansas City area (pictured here, from April 5, 2014). Additionally, Becky has hosted donor registration drives in her community to help increase awareness about the donor registry.

Saving Sight is proud to have played a part in Gentry's gift of sight and is so thankful for Becky's enthusiasm for sharing her story in the community.



Becky and Gentry Howard



Gentry Howard

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