



HeartBrothers' Programs

Our assistance programs are designed to fill the gaps between medical insurance and hospital compassionate care. Currently, HeartBrothers-initiated programs have been rolled out at Tufts Medical Center, MGH, Brigham & Womens, Beth Israel Deaconess, Boston Childrens, Rhode Island Hospital, UMASS Medical Center, Maine Medical Center, Mayo Clinic (Scottsdale) and growing every month.

- **Heart of Survival:** Providing gap assistance and tools for managing long-term hospitalizations
- **Team HeartBrothers:** Volunteers who provide face-to-face interaction with patients and their families, assisting them with fundraising and organ donation awareness
- **Organ Donation Awareness:** Increasing awareness through the HeartBrothers' volunteers

What is the HeartBrothers Foundation?

Our sole mission is to bring resources together to help patients and their loved ones survive a life with heart failure and all its challenges.

In 2014, four collective heart failure survivors—former HF patients Bob Romer and Pat Sullivan and their wives, Susan Romer and Leslie Sullivan, founded HeartBrothers Foundation, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to helping patients and their loved ones navigate the complicated world of heart failure (HF), ventricular assist devices (VADs) and heart transplantation.

We are in a unique position to understand the overwhelming physical, mental and financial stresses of HF for both patients and their families. Our goal is to fill the gaps that the healthcare system doesn't by offering essential support through medical insurance assistance programs, informative stress-coping resources, breaking medical news and support blogs for sharing personal challenges and triumphs.

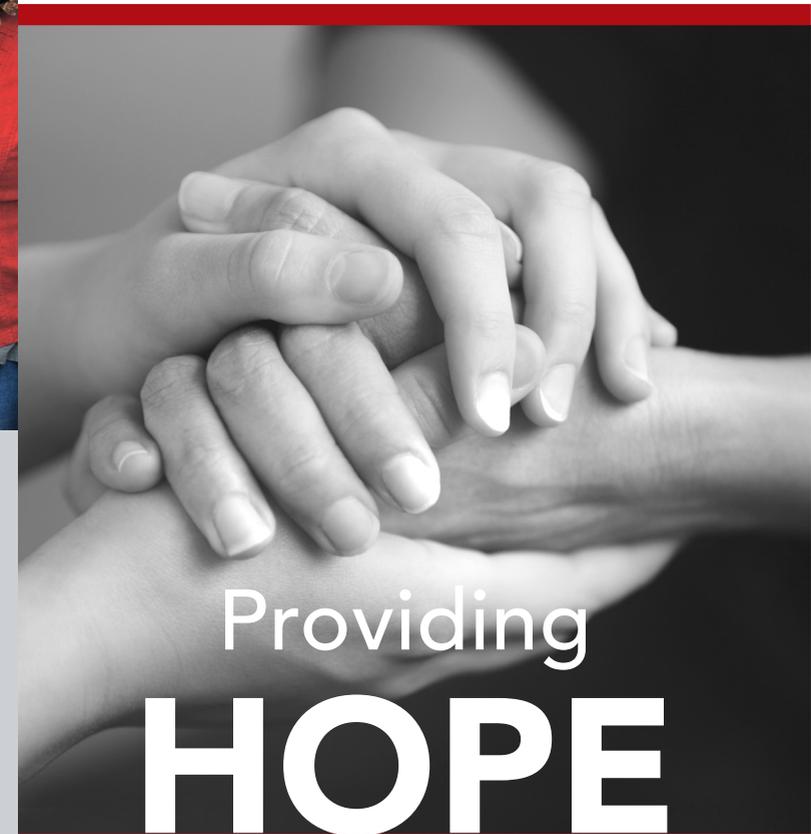


▲ FROM LEFT: Leslie, Pat, Bob, Susan

Board of Directors

- Robert Romer**, Volunteer & Founding Survivor
- Patrick Sullivan**, Volunteer & Founding Survivor
- Susan Romer**, Director & Founding Survivor.
- Leslie Sullivan**, Director & Founding Survivor.
- David DeNofrio, MD**, Board Member, Medical Director, Advanced Heart Failure Program Tufts Medical Center

For more information, please visit HeartBrothers.org, call 508-630-2289 or 800-262-0931 or email us@heartbrothers.org.



Providing
HOPE

*is at the heart
of all we do*



Heart failure is more deadly than breast and lung cancer combined but no one is talking about it. *Until now.*

They are mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, neighbors and friends. They make up the six million Americans living with heart failure—a condition that inhibits the heart’s ability to pump vital, oxygen-rich blood to the body’s organs, leading to symptoms such as shortness of breath, swelling of ankles, legs and abdomen, fatigue, loss of appetite, nausea and persistent cough. The causes of heart failure are as diverse as the people who are living with this potentially fatal disease. They can range from congenital defects and previous heart attacks to complications from diabetes and cardiac arrhythmias.

Approximately:

- **6.0 million** people suffer from heart failure in the US and almost **13 million** people globally
- **600,000** people are diagnosed with heart failure each year
- **50%** will die within five years
- **280,000+** people die from heart failure each year—more than breast and lung cancer deaths combined
- There are approximately **2,500** donor hearts available for transplantation in the US each year

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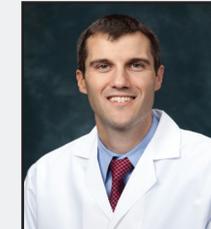
**These are the faces
of heart failure, so
let’s not fail them now.**



Steve Maskell
LVAD & Heart Transplant
Survivor

Having spent months in Tufts Medical Center with both Bob and Pat, I know how dedicated they are to help others. We all talked about giving back if we survived our ordeal. I live 4 1/2 hours away and I could not see my wife or eight children for months at a time. Now with the HeartBrothers, patients’ families will be able to visit more often. This is a big factor in surviving the nightmare for patients and their loved ones.

Michael Kiernan, MD,



MSc Director, Ventricular Assist Device Program, Tufts Medical Center Boston, MA

“It is difficult to appreciate the physical and psychological toll of living with advanced heart failure unless you have walked a mile in those shoes. It is an illness that extends beyond the individual, to

affect also the health and well-being of a patient’s caregivers. As survivors of this disease, the HeartBrothers know firsthand about coping with heart failure. Through their Foundation, they are providing resources to support the emotional and social needs of patients and their families surviving with heart failure beyond what medicine alone can offer” and their loved ones..



Kyle Williams
LVAD & Transplant Survivor

“December 2014 was the beginning of a new story in my life when I received my new heart at Tufts Medical Center. I take time to thank my donor and family every single day. Beyond that, getting to know members of Team HeartBrothers and talking to people who have been through it all before made such a difference in my attitude and outlook. We all share a common bond. It will always connect us, and I will forever be grateful for the kindness and generosity shown to me.”

Living with HF and all its endless challenges truly takes a village and HeartBrothers Foundation is honored to be part of the circle of survival.



Hamid Madahvy,
LVAD and Transplant Survivor

“HeartBrothers is a one-of-a-kind organization with the singular focus of helping Heart Failure patients and their loved ones. We not only provide counseling and emotional support we also lend a helping hand financially. This is what makes us special. Plus, joining HeartBrothers as a volunteer opens up a world of opportunities for service and giving back. Being a HeartBrother has been my life’s most enjoyable experience. After my transplant surgery I had a very difficult recovery, 19 days in the ICU, two follow-up surgeries and many complications. During that time, I was pretty down and at the end of my rope. I made a vow that if I ever got out I would dedicate my life to giving back. Once home I hooked up with HeartBrothers. They gave me hope when there was little hope, they gave me focus and a means to carry on. The physical challenges heal with time. But the mental and emotional strain just lingers. HeartBrothers and my faith have given me the vehicle to get my life back on track.

Now almost three years post transplant, them being a part of me and me being a part of them has opened a rich and rewarding chapter in my new lease on life”



Deyven Ferreras,
LVAD and Transplant Survivor

“As an 18-year-old with an LVAD, I would go to Boston Children’s Hospital and speak to kids (and their parents) who were likely to receive an LVAD as well. My goal was to ease some of their worries. However, I did not have anyone I could talk to that could ease some of my worries. Thankfully, the HeartBrothers provided that for me. They answered my questions regarding life “post-transplant,” checked on me periodically to make sure I was okay, and they even helped me when I was afraid I would not be able to afford my college textbooks. I thank the HeartBrothers for reassuring me that life would get better, and that advice gave me the strength I needed to overcome my medical hurdles.”

HEART BROTHERS FOUNDATION™
Failing Hearts Need Helping Hands

heartbrothers.org