

Claire calls for more heroes

BE A HERO

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A LEEDS doctor has thrown her support behind a YEP-backed campaign to encourage people to become an organ donor - after celebrating her 35th anniversary of receiving a new kidney.

Dr Claire Corps, 47, a research scientist at St James's Hospital, said she would not be alive today had it not been for her kidney transplant and subsequent liver transplant 18 years ago.

She said the transplants gave her a new lease of life and inspired her into specialising in Clinical Immunology and Allergy and running trials at the hospital.

Claire, who has a PhD in Organ Preservation for Transplantation, regularly attends events such as the National Transplant Games to support others who are awaiting a transplant.



SUPPORT: Dr Claire Corps is supporting the campaign.

She said she spoke to a dad at one of the games who decided to donate his son's organs following a road accident.

Claire said: "I asked him whether it was a hard decision to donate his to make. He said

"I asked him whether it was a hard decision to make. He said no."

no. I asked him why and he said because as a child, he used to watch Blue Peter and they had a programme on about children who had transplants saying how wonderful the donors were.

"That inspired him to become a donor.

"The strange thing is, I was one of those children. This man flung his arms around me, hugged me and said thank you.

"He said that his son's life is over, but because of what I did, he can see his organs helping other people."

And she is calling on more people to support the YEP-backed Be A Hero organ donation campaign, run by Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.

It comes after we revealed that just 29 Leeds families, and 114 in Yorkshire, donated organs last year as around 800 people wait for lifesaving transplants. Around three people nationally die every day waiting for a transplant.

BE A HERO: To sign the register visit leadsth.nhs.uk/be-a-hero.



BE A HERO: Dr Claire Corps is calling for more people to sign the organ donor register.



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