

June 10, 2011

## Nash Family Statement

2 years, 3 months, and 25 days have passed since Charla was savagely attacked by a chimpanzee in Connecticut. During this time Charla has fought hard, at first, for her life, and then to begin to recover both physically and emotionally. Our family is deeply indebted to the many individuals and the three hospitals who have gotten her to this wonderful day.

The EMTs, Dr. Miller, and the staff at Stamford Hospital saved her life on the very first night with a surgery that lasted many hours and gave her a chance to survive.

Her doctor, Dr. Alam, and the wonderful nurses and staff at the Cleveland Clinic brought her closer to this great day by helping her recover from the trauma, begin to heal and gain strength to ready her for potential transplants.

Dr. Pomahac, the nurses, the entire transplant team and the staff here at Brigham and Women's helped Charla by performing the miraculous hands and face transplants and are now helping her recover from those operations.

We thank these brilliant, skillful people for helping Charla in so many ways since the attack. Because of them, we are confident Charla will reach her goal to regain her health and independence in the future. We are impressed every day by their incredible care and concern.

We wish to thank the New England Donor Bank for helping to find a suitable donor for Charla.

We thank all our friends and family who have been supportive and caring during this ordeal. We have been deeply touched by people from the U.S. and from around the world who have written to Charla and wished her well.

Lastly, we wish to thank the donor and her family for giving Charla a new face and hands. We mourn the loss of your loved one and share in your sadness. Your incredible gift to Charla is generous and kind beyond words. Thank you for your precious gift and God Bless You.