

# Guest Spotlight

Antonio



Age: 41  
Transplant: Double Lung  
Hospital: Baylor St. Luke's  
Hometown: Baton Rouge, LA

## Transplant Journey:

In March of 2024, I was about to leave my house when I started having trouble breathing. My fiancé, quick to act, called 911 and I was taken to the hospital. Upon arrival, we were informed that my right lung had collapsed and I would need a transplant as soon as possible. Unfortunately, they paused lung transplantation in Louisiana since COVID-19 so I stayed in the hospital for about a month as my hope rested in my case being accepted by another transplant center. My doctor received a phone call from a surgeon in Houston, Texas who by the grace of God accepted my case. I was then transferred from Baton Rouge to Houston by ambulance and stayed in the hospital for two long months waiting for the call.

On May 23, 2024 after enduring uncertainty and anticipation I received my double lung transplant. It took the medical team 13.5 hours and after surgery I was told my lungs looked like chewing gum. They didn't know how I managed to live in the condition I was in. After a month of recovering in the hospital I found my home away from home at Nora's Home.

## What is the first thing you want to do when you go home?

I want to see my 4 children. My children are ages 24, 22, 17, and 16 years old. Although I Facetime them all the time it will be different to be able to hug them.

## What do you enjoy most about Nora's Home?

I love how peaceful it is here. Every time I come back to Houston for my monthly visits, I am going to call here first and try to make a reservation. It really feels like a home away from home.

## What has been your favorite space at Nora's Home?

The dining room. I love all the events that take place in this space. I was drawn to the chair closest to the kitchen when I first came to Nora's Home, and I've sat at the same spot ever since when enjoying a meal.



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