

NKF of Ohio Receives Telephone Equipment Donation

Telephony & Data Solutions and Vodavi Technology, Inc., provider of traditional and next generation business telecommunications solutions recently donated telecommunications equipment upgrade to the NKF of Ohio's Headquarters. Vodavi's donation included new digital telephone and voice mail system with assorted telephone handsets valued at more than \$13,900.

"In-kind donations positively affects our bottom line and allow us to direct more of our funds to fulfilling our mission and providing stronger services for our patients," said Peggy Frey, NKF of Ohio's Director of Business Development.

Telephony & Data Solutions is one of Vodavi's authorized dealers located throughout the U.S. who achieved Vodavi's elite President's Club status making the company eligible to nominate a local area charity to receive this one-time equipment donation as part of its community outreach program to help 501c3 charitable organizations have access to the latest communication technologies. Telephony & Data Solutions provided installation and training service at no-charge.

"In-kind donations positively affects our bottom line and allow us to direct more of our funds to fulfilling our mission and providing stronger services for our patients," said Peggy Frey, NKF of Ohio's Director of Business Development. "We are extremely grateful to Telephony & Data Solution and Vodavi for the updated telephone and voice processing system. The new system has allowed us to better accommodate our growth, improve our productivity and take advantage of the increased flexibility in phone system options that we never had before."

"We are thrilled to join forces with Vodavi to provide The National Kidney Foundation of Ohio with this new technology to help them improve their operations," states Bob Rankin, general manager of Telephony & Data Solutions. "The new telephone system will allow this well-deserving organization the opportunity to continue to flourish and provide important services to our community."

Vodavi is headquartered in Phoenix, Arizona. For more information on Vodavi, visit www.vodavi.com.

Wings Charity Golf Event Set for July 17

Each year the Yee family and their friends gather to host the Wings Charity Golf Outing in Memory of Siu K. Yee. Through the event, the Yee family has donated nearly over \$100,000 to benefit the NKF of Ohio's Emergency Financial Assistance program helping hundreds of kidney patients with financial assistance for essential medications, transportation to life-sustaining treatments, and nutritional supplements.

The Seventh Annual Wings Charity Golf Outing will be held on July 17, 2006 at The Ohio State University Golf Courses – Scarlet Course. A cocktail reception and silent auction will be held the evening of July 16 at Wings Restaurant in Bexley.

For more information or to register please contact Ken Yee at (614) 236-8261.

March Declared Kidney Cancer Awareness Month

Through the work of the NKF of Ohio, Governor Bob Taft and the State of Ohio declared March 2006 as "Kidney Cancer Awareness Month." The governor's resolution recognized the severity of kidney cancer and the thousands of Ohioans it affects each year. The resolution also applauds the research breakthroughs over the past year that have given renewed hope to patients who previously have had few treatment options.



Calendar of Events 2006

May 25
Akron Walk at Stan Hywet, **Akron OH**

June 12
Akron Golf at Firestone CC

June 16 - June 21
Transplant Games

July 24 - July 28
Kappa Kidney Camp

July 31
Columbus Golf at Wedgewood CC

July 24
KEEP Screening, Near East Side Pride Center – **Columbus**

August 8
KEEP Screening, OPEN M's –
941 Princeton St – **Akron**

Charitable Giving Made Easier

Charitable giving just got easier. The NKF of Ohio can now accept the direct gifting of securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds). This can be done using either certificates or automatic transfer.

It is always a good time to help the NKF of Ohio. It might also be a good time for you to take advantage of the tax benefits of giving. Please contact Kathy Dougherty at 614-481-4030 with any questions.

NKF of Ohio Board Member Joins National Committee

NKF of Ohio Board Secretary Don Miller recently joined national's finance committee. The NKF National Finance Committee reviews affiliate chapter finances, finances of the national office, review/approve the national office budget for the upcoming fiscal year and monitor expenditures for national programs and services.

In particular, the committee reviews and monitors the finances of affiliates that are experiencing financial trouble and when necessary, take over day-to-day management of (in conjunction with affiliate relations committee) or close down non-performing affiliates.

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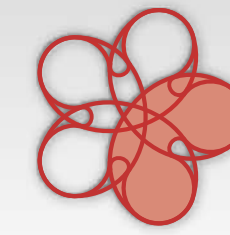
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Member of Community Health Charities of Ohio

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National Kidney Foundation™
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Kidney Comments

Spring 2006

Cleveland and Columbus Walks!

Quicken Loans Arena and Polaris Fashion Place served once again as venues for the NKF of Ohio's Indoor Kidney Walk. The indoor kidney walk continues to be a way for dialysis patients, organ transplant recipients, organ donor families, community members and businesses to celebrate life and become involved to support the NKF of Ohio.

Each event hosted hundreds of walkers and raised thousands of dollars for the NKF of Ohio while raising awareness throughout each community.

"We've been thrilled with the growth of both events. Each year we have more walkers and sponsors to help get the word out about kidney disease," said NKF of Ohio Executive Director Orelle Jackson.

Statistics show more than 20 million people suffer from kidney disease and another 20 million are at risk making awareness

more important than ever. The indoor walks were promoted on local television, radio and newspapers including WSYX, Oldies 107.9 and Suburban News Publications.

Sports also played a role in each event. Columbus' arena football team, the Columbus Destroyers provided their dancers to help warm up the crowd. The "Bombshells" led the group through stretches and aerobic exercises and throughout the walking course. In Cleveland, the Cleveland Cavaliers once again provided the opportunity for walkers who raised more than \$100 to participate in a free throw contest on their practice court.

Combined the walks raised over \$83,000 and the National Kidney Foundation of Ohio extends its gratitude to all of the sponsors and participants who made this year's walk a success. Plans are already underway for next year's walks as well as one in Akron later this year.

Thank You to Our Sponsors

Columbus Sponsors:

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OSU Medical Center
Amgen, Inc.

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Exhibitors:

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Villa Angela Care Center
Odessey Healthcare
Primerica
AmeriHealth Chiropractic

Cleveland Sponsors:

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Children's Hospital

Gold Sponsor

Fresenius Healthcare

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Renal Care Group



Dear Friends of the NKF,

What's your **kidney score**? Furthermore, what is a "kidney score?" It's an interesting question and as you in our newsletter story, a question that we believe can become common health language.

As the GFR awareness campaign continues to roll out, we felt strongly that it needed to resonate in the public's mind as an easily identified health indicator: a number that would be as well-known as cholesterol or blood pressure. Your **kidney score** is your GFR value or number (normal for adults being approximately 100 as ml/min/1.73 M2), and knowing that your GFR or kidney score is low is the most effective way to screen for evidence of early kidney disease. Far too often people who suffer from kidney disease don't know about it until they've progressed to the later stages of kidney disease. The GFR / Kidney Score Campaign seeks to change that lost opportunity.

Amidst the public campaign, the NKF of Ohio has many other activities and events that continue to be successful and demonstrate the vibrancy and enthusiasm of the staff, volunteers and board.

For that I am most appreciative. All the time and effort that many of you invest is worthwhile work and meaningful! Please enjoy this edition of Kidney Comments and we look forward to continuing to work together to "making lives better."

John Mahan, MD

Do You Know Your Kidney Score?

It's a succinct, direct question. It's also a question that will become a large part of the NKF of Ohio's GFR Awareness Campaign. In fact, "Kidney Score" will be used on all of the public marketing materials as part of the GFR awareness campaign.

Over the past few months The Ohio State University School of Communications and Fisher College of Business MBA Program conducted focus groups and quantitative research to further define the GFR awareness campaign and test marketing concepts. Research clearly indicated that the public desired a quick, simple way to grasp the Glomerular Filtration Rate or GFR concept. Numbers and scores are part of the daily health vocabulary. People are used to being asked about their cholesterol numbers, blood pressure number, PSA score and other tests that provide instant recognition and awareness of health status. Thus, the "Kidney Score" was born and will be used as primary recognition of GFR.

Research also confirmed that statistics such as "one in nine people have kidney disease"

The Blood Pressure (BP) Success Zone

Patients who take Diovan, Diovan HCT, or Lotrel, three blood pressure medications, can benefit from participating in the Novartis' BP Success Zone. The BP Success Zone was created to educate people about high blood pressure and provide a program including medication, information, education, action plans, and tools that may help people reach their blood pressure goals as set by their healthcare professionals. The BP Success Zone also offers a money-back guarantee regarding Diovan, Diovan HCT, or Lotrel.*

Additional BP Success Zone member benefits and tools include:

- A Free Trial and savings on your next prescription for Diovan, Diovan HCT or Lotrel*
- Ongoing Support Materials
- Healthy Lifestyle Action Plan
- Members' Website Tools
- Omron® Blood Pressure Monitor, free with rebate*
- The BP Goal Money-Back Guarantee*

* Check website or program materials for details.

To enroll in the program, Diovan, Diovan HCT or Lotrel must be prescribed by a healthcare professional. For more information or to access the BP Success Zone logon to www.bpsuccesszone.com.

resonated with focus group participants regarding the large number of people whose lives are affected by kidney disease.

The research and revised messaging are cited as critical components to the GFR Awareness Campaign's success. "Twenty years ago, cholesterol levels were all but unknown to the public. Through education and public awareness of LDL and HDL levels, cholesterol testing and treatment has become the first line of defense against cardiovascular disease," said NKF of Ohio Executive Director Orelle Jackson. "We believe the 'kidney score' can also become an everyday part of health screenings. Particularly because it's not a new test, but simply an additional equation to existing blood work."

GFR is considered by medical experts to be the best early test to measure the level of kidney function and determine stages of kidney disease. The earlier kidney disease is detected, the better the chance of slowing or stopping its progression.

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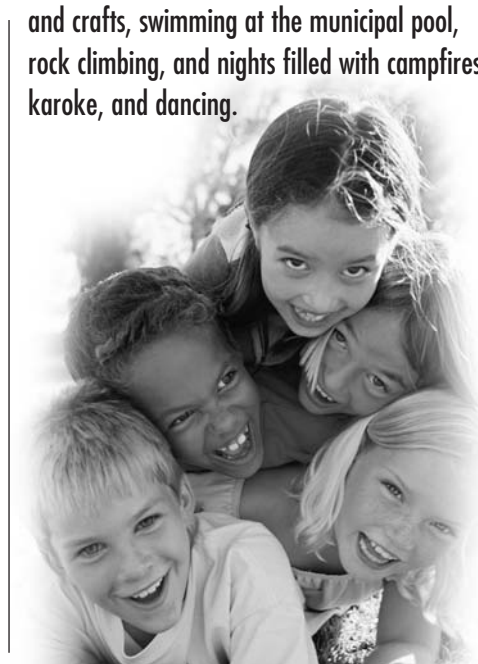
Kidney Camp Offers Opportunity for Kids to be Kids

For children who are transplant recipients or on dialysis sometimes it's tough just to be a kid. The Kappa Kidney Camp offers the opportunity for kids to be kids and form lifelong bonds with others just like themselves.

The NKF of Ohio's Kappa Kidney Camp is a special place offering a wide range of summertime activities in an environment specifically designed for youngsters ages 8 to 18 years old with kidney disease.

Kappa Kidney Camp will be held from July 23-28 at the YMCA Willson Outdoor Center in Bellefontaine, Ohio. Campers enjoy a six-day, five night stay at a camp fully staffed with expert medical care. Campers may attend camp at no charge, due to generous support from sponsors, like the Ohio chapters of Kappa Kappa Gamma.

The camp features cabin accommodations nestled in a beautiful woods next to a large lake for boating and fishing. Other favorite camp activities include horseback riding, arts



For more information contact 1-800-242-2133 ext 224 or logon to www.nkfofOhio.org to fill out camp forms.
Kappa Kidney Camp applications are due June 23, 2006.

Nephrology Clinical Research Studies

The Ohio State University, Division of Nephrology is currently conducting several Phase II and Phase III clinical studies in the area of Diabetes and Kidney Disease. The Investigators conducting these studies are Nephrologists (kidney doctors) and the studies are sponsored by Pharmaceutical companies. Two of these studies are testing new drugs to see if they can reduce proteinuria (loss of protein in the urine due to kidney disease) in diabetic patients. One study is testing a new oral drug developed by a Pharmaceutical

company for correction of anemia in diabetic patients that have kidney disease. There are other studies in areas such as systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), iron deficiency in chronic kidney disease and dialysis patients, focal segmental glomerulosclerosis (FSGS), IgA Nephritis and other areas. To participate in these research studies or if you have any of the conditions mentioned above and would like more information, you can call 1-800-293-5081. The research staff will be happy to answer your questions.



Walkers at Polarix



Jim Hunter and Sue Hagar from Oldies 107.9



Team Fresenius



Brownie Troop 1455 top - Haley Stelluti, Jacqueline Halliday, Lindsey Huber, Reed Patrick, bottom - Quinn DeVillers, Megan Dressel, Gabi Zappatelli, Ana Wolfe



Columbus Destroyer Bombshells led the early morning warm-up



Cleveland Walk participants participated in a free throw contest on the Cavaliers practice court