



# Together




NATIONAL KIDNEY  
FOUNDATION®

**ANNUAL REPORT FY21**





Actress Debbie Allen: “I want to do my part to help others.” 

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Fueled by passion and urgency, the National Kidney Foundation (NKF) is a lifeline for all people affected by **kidney disease, also known as chronic kidney disease (CKD)**. As pioneers of scientific research and innovation, NKF focuses on the whole patient through the lens of kidney health. Relentless in our work, we enhance lives through action, education, and accelerating change. **The pages within highlight NKF’s efforts between April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021, our fiscal year 2021.**



# A MESSAGE FROM *leadership*



A message to you from NKF Chair and transplant recipient Anthony Tuggle 

For more than seven decades, **NKF has worked together** with patients, advocates, clinicians, researchers, lawmakers, the private sector, and financial contributors to improve the lives of patients through advocacy, education, and by accelerating change.

We proved in fiscal year 2021, that not even a pandemic could stop our efforts and that **this past year gave us a new meaning of the word “together.”**

COVID-19 forced us to move all our on going work to virtual and remote operations and to generate new efforts for a novel disease that damages kidneys and created a new subset of kidney patients. Despite the challenges, together we achieved one of our most groundbreaking years in our history.

When the shutdown started, we immediately began advocating for patients who needed dialysis, transplants, and for people with COVID-19-damaged kidneys. **We fought for early and free COVID-19 screening**, personal protective equipment, and vaccines for kidney patients and dialysis center workers. We urged the federal government to clarify that **organ transplants and dialysis-related procedures were “essential surgeries.”**

When reports came in that kidney patients could be denied medical services during the height of COVID-19 hospitalizations because of their status as end-stage kidney disease patients, we immediately **turned our powerful megaphone** toward hospitals, politicians, and policy agencies to call **for an end to such discrimination toward our patients**. Earlier than most, we sounded the alarm when we learned that **COVID-19 was hitting communities of color especially hard and demanded more public resources** immediately to level care.

In December, we reached one of our most important goals when the **Comprehensive Immunosuppressive Drug Coverage for Kidney Transplant Patients Act** was signed into law. It will change the lives of thousands of patients receiving Medicare, who can now afford transplantation because their immunosuppressive drugs will be covered for the life of their transplant.



Paul M. Palevsky, MD  
NKF President



Anthony Tuggle  
NKF Chair of the Board



Kevin Longino  
NKF Chief Executive Officer

Today, only a fraction of patients with kidney failure will ever get a transplant. To make the problem even more intolerable, people of color are disproportionately less likely to have access to transplantation, thus creating yet another system plagued by inequality. We believe our new initiative **Transplants for All** will ensure that **any patient who wants a transplant can get one.**

In February, we launched the national **NKF Patient Network**. It is the **only kidney disease registry that has both patient-entered data combined with electronic health records**. Patients with all stages of kidney disease can register and add their important health information. This powerful research tool will improve the lives of people with kidney disease by better informing research, clinical care, drug development, and health policy decisions, as well as give kidney patients the tools they need to stay educated and healthy. Please take some time to learn more about it within this report.

During this difficult year, we all know that our society faced more than just a historic pandemic, it faced injustices, unrest, and political division. It **prompted us to take a bold stand in addressing the healthcare disparities** that plague our communities of color and delay the diagnosis and treatment of kidney disease. **We launched a joint Task Force** with the American Society of Nephrology to examine the role of race in diagnosing and **treating kidney disease**. We also launched our first-ever Health Equity Advisory Committee, responsible for directing and **championing NKF’s health equity, community health, and social justice efforts** through research, education, and key partnerships.

As you read through these pages of our FY21 Annual Report, please think about the many contributors who joined us to support kidney patients. It is because of their faith in us and continued giving that we accomplished so much this year. This year has been difficult on the entire community, but **together, we made an incredible impact** on the medical community, care partners, and patients.

Thank you for all that you have contributed to this important work.



# KIDNEY DISEASE *at a Glance*

**1 IN 3** adults in the U.S. are at risk of kidney disease.

**37 MILLION** adults in the U.S. have kidney disease.

**HISPANIC OR LATINO** adults are 1.3 times more likely to develop kidney failure than non-Hispanics.

**BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICANS** suffer from kidney failure about 3 times more than White Americans.

**35%** of all patients treated for kidney failure are Black or African American yet they represent only 13% of the U.S. population.

Source: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

CONTAINS  
RECYCLED  
PARTS



## OUR LEADERSHIP

### INTRODUCING THE NKF BOARD

Year after year, each class of the NKF Board of Directors has served with a personal connection to kidney disease.

**Manish Agarwal**, President and COO  
Attain LLC, McLean, VA  
**Personal connection:** Mr. Agarwal is a transplant recipient and is passionate about kidney health. He actively serves NKF Serving the National Capital Area as Chair of the Board.

**Anne Barr**, Chief Information Officer  
Brown & Toland Physicians, Bay Area, CA  
**Personal connection:** Ms. Barr's engagement with NKF began as part of her passion for kidney transplantation and when a close friend became a kidney donor.

**Matthew Cooper, MD**, Director  
Kidney and Pancreas Transplantation, MedStar Georgetown Transplant Institute; Professor of Surgery, Georgetown University School of Medicine, Washington, D.C.  
**Personal connection:** Dr. Cooper's work with NKF is centered on improving the lives of people with kidney disease and supporting the need for organ transplantation for those with kidney failure.

**Joseph Cosgrove**, Chairman, President and CEO  
Pentec Health, Inc., Boothwyn, PA  
**Personal connection:** Mr. Cosgrove's mother-in-law and his best friend have kidney disease.

**Jennifer DaSilva**, President  
Berlin Cameron, New York, NY  
**Personal connection:** Ms. DaSilva knows that awareness is just part of the battle against the progression of kidney disease, so she is driven in her efforts to help spread NKF's messages.

**John Gerzema**, Past NKF Chair  
CEO  
Harris Insights & Analytics, New York, NY  
**Personal connection:** Mr. Gerzema experienced kidney damage as a child.

**Orlando Hampton**, Chief Customer Officer  
Afiniti, Inc., Washington, D.C.  
**Personal connection:** Mr. Hampton's personal connection to kidney disease began when his stepfather's kidneys failed due to a deteriorating condition that led to dialysis.

**Tom Hough**, Financial Consultant and Board Member  
Bain Capital Specialty Finance, Plano, TX  
**Personal connection:** His daughter received her first diagnosis of kidney stones at age 9. He joined the local NKF board to learn more about kidney disease and to help others deal with kidney disease.

**Holly Kramer, MD, MPH**,  
Past NKF President  
Professor of Public Health Sciences and Medicine  
Loyola University Medical Center, Maywood, IL  
**Personal connection:** She is a second-generation kidney healthcare professional, dedicating her life to improving outcomes for people with this disease.

**Kevin Longino**, CEO  
National Kidney Foundation, New York, NY  
**Personal connection:** He is a kidney transplant recipient, and son and grandson of kidney patients.

**Samuel J. Marchio**, NKF Secretary  
Regional Vice President  
Federal Government Relations, Head of Congressional Affairs  
Anthem, Inc., Washington, D.C.  
**Personal connection:** He is passionate about kidney health, public health, and fundraising.

**Tracy McKibben**, Founder and CEO  
MAC Energy Advisors, LLC, New York, NY  
**Personal connection:** Ms. McKibben donated a kidney to her mother, who was on dialysis for several years.

**Paul M. Palevsky, MD**, NKF President  
Professor of Medicine  
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine  
Chief Renal Section, VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System, Pittsburgh  
**Personal connection:** Dr. Palevsky has devoted his career to kidney health and is an international expert in acute kidney injury and critical care nephrology.

**Art Pasquarella**, CRE, EVP and COO  
Equus Capital Partners, Ltd., Philadelphia  
**Personal connection:** He is a living donor, and two of his immediate family members have received kidney transplants.

**Stephen Pastan, MD**, Associate  
Professor of Medicine  
Division of Transplantation and Medical Director, Kidney and Pancreas Transplant Program, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta  
**Personal connection:** He chose nephrology as a career due to the long-term personal relationships nephrologists form with their patients.

**Sylvia Rosas, MD, MSCE**,  
NKF President-Elect  
Nephrologist, Epidemiologist  
Joslin Diabetes Center, Inc., Boston  
Director, Latino Kidney Clinic  
Associate Professor, Harvard Medical School  
**Personal connection:** She has dedicated her career to the care, the cause, and the support of kidney patients.

**Michael J. Stevenson, CPA**,  
Director  
Blue & Co., LLC, Columbus, OH  
**Personal connection:** After receiving his diagnosis of glomerulonephritis, Mr. Stevenson received a kidney from his brother, Jim, in 1996, and has been a champion of trying to raise awareness about CKD and ultimately trying to find a cure.

**Stephanie Stewart, MSW, LICSW, MBA**,  
Operations Administrator  
Mayo Clinic Health System, Mankato, MN  
**Personal connection:** Ms. Stewart cares about improving the lives of people with CKD. Many of the individuals, mostly patients, with whom she has worked with have touched her life in very personal ways.

**Sumeska Thavarajah, MD**,  
Medical Director  
Fresenius Kidney Care Merritt Boulevard; Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Baltimore, MD  
**Personal connection:** She has been committed to education and dedicated to bringing community awareness about kidney disease through her work with the National Kidney Foundation serving Maryland and Delaware.

**Anthony Tuggle**, NKF Board Chair  
President of Customer Operations  
Afiniti, Inc., Washington, D.C.  
**Personal connection:** A 22-year kidney transplant recipient, Mr. Tuggle is committed to working with NKF towards kidney disease prevention efforts.

**Bradley A. Warady, MD**,  
Division Director Pediatric Nephrology, Director Dialysis and Transplantation  
Children's Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, MO  
**Personal connection:** Dr. Warady has taken advantage of his opportunity as an NKF board member to do what he has done throughout his career: advocate for children affected by kidney disease.



NATIONAL STAFF

- Kevin Longino**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Petros A. Gregoriou, CPA**  
Chief Financial Officer

**Christopher Jackson**  
Chief People Officer

**Dolores Machuca-Ruiz**  
Chief Marketing Officer

**Joseph Vassalotti, MD**  
Chief Medical Officer

**Kerry K. Willis, PhD**  
Chief Scientific Officer

**Anthony S. Gucciardo**  
Senior Vice President  
Strategic Partnerships

**Jessica Joseph, MBA**  
Senior Vice President  
Scientific Operations

**Sharon Pearce**  
Senior Vice President,  
Government Relations
- Maureen Stone**  
Senior Vice President,  
Development

**Denise Andersen**  
Regional Vice President  
Northeast

**Brenita Brooks**  
Regional Vice President  
Midwest, Central, Southwest

**Susan Ketron, CFRE**  
Regional Vice President  
Resource Development  
Donor and Resource Development  
Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, West

**Jennifer Ching**  
Vice President of  
Human Resources

**Stephanie Cogan**  
Vice President  
Corporate Relations

**Kelli Collins, MSW**  
Vice President  
Patient Engagement
- James Echikson**  
Vice President  
Corporate Development

**Andrew Gordon, CPA**  
Vice President  
Finance and Controller

**Julie Kimbrough**  
Vice President Marketing,  
Communications,  
and Public Affairs

**Jacob Lane**  
Vice President  
Information Technology

**Katarina E. Madej**  
Vice President  
Digital Marketing

**Jennifer Martin**  
Vice President  
Program Development

**Elizabeth Talbot-Montgomery**  
Vice President  
Learning Strategies and Primary  
Care Programs

“Confronting disparities based on race and ethnicity in healthcare is critical for the National Kidney Foundation. And we believe we do our part by ensuring diversity and broad representation in NKF’s workforce. We know this has a profound impact now, and in the future, for our patients.”

— Christopher Jackson, NKF Chief People Officer



Christopher Jackson, NKF Chief People Officer



# ADVANCING

# Kidney Transplantation

22,817  
people  
received a kidney  
transplant in 2020.

Source: UNOS

12  
people  
die each day while waiting  
for a kidney transplant.

Source: UNOS

5,234  
people  
received a living-donor  
kidney in 2020.

Source: OPTN/HRSA

58.4%  
of all organ  
transplants were  
kidneys in 2020.

Source: UNOS

Watch the inspiring story of *American Ninja Warrior* competitor and living donor Austin Gray [🔗](#)

## WHAT'S NEW:

**WE** IMAGINE A WORLD where no one ever dies while waiting for a kidney transplant. We have three goals to make that dream a reality:

1. Increase living-donor transplantation;
2. Increase deceased-donor transplantation;
3. Increase eligibility and access to transplantation.

- In December, we saw one of NKF's most important goals reached when the **Comprehensive Immunosuppressive Drug Coverage for Kidney Transplant Patients Act** was signed into law. NKF has been fighting for years for this federal legislation that will help tens of thousands of transplant patients and enable transplants as an option for many more. Many patients using Medicare could not even consider transplantation in the past because paying for immunosuppressive medication after the 36-month expiration date of coverage made the cost too expensive. Those patients may now be able to move towards transplant thanks to this new law. **Providing equal access to a kidney transplant for patients with kidney failure is one of our top priorities** and this legislation gets us closer to that end.
- In March, **NKF partnered with a bipartisan coalition of members of the U.S. Congress** to reintroduce **The Living Donor Protection Act** to protect living-donors from insurance and employment discrimination. The Living Donor Protection Act of 2021 (LDPA), S. 377 and H.R. 1255 will make it significantly easier for people to donate a kidney and ultimately move more people off dialysis.
- **Transplants for All is our new initiative to ensure that any patient who wants a transplant can get one.** We believe that transplantation, which is the gold standard of treatment, should be available to every patient facing kidney failure. Right now, only a fraction of patients with kidney failure will ever have access to transplantation, let alone get one. Every day, 12 people die while on the transplant waitlist. To make the problem even more intolerable, people of color are disproportionately less likely to have access to transplantation creating yet another system plagued by inequality. In FY21, we set three goals for the next five years to get us closer to Transplants for All:
  - » Increase living-donor transplantation;
  - » Increase deceased-donor transplantation;
  - » Increase eligibility and access to transplantation.
- We know that improvements are desperately needed to give equal access to transplantation to all patients, regardless of race, ethnicity, or income. So, we proudly announced the National Kidney Foundation's Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative (KDOQI) release of a commentary on the Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes (**KDIGO**) **Clinical Practice Guideline on the Evaluation and Management of Candidates for Kidney Transplantation**. This incredible work of kidney care stakeholders proposes numerous improvements to the KDIGO's guidelines that will broaden access to the waitlist and improve equity in transplantation.
- NKF's commitment to increasing transplantation for all is steadfast. In FY21, our team expanded and **added new resources under THE BIG ASK: THE BIG GIVE (BABG)** platform, including virtual components. First Steps to Transplant and Finding a Living Donor are interactive educational programs in webinar format that introduce the idea of transplantation to patients and how to share the need for a kidney. We also tested a virtual, "at-home" version of our original BABG for patients on the waitlist. This will make it easier for patients without access to the in-person program around the country.
- In FY21, we saw the results of our patients' and staffs' advocacy efforts when five states, Kentucky, Missouri, New Jersey, Utah, and Washington, **passed state legislation that protects living donors** against insurance discrimination. Our advocates and staff also successfully **advocated for paid leave for organ donation** for state employees in Kentucky and city employees in Louisville, KY, and created a kidney disease task force in Illinois. We remain committed to advancing important legislation in every state that will make it easier for all living-donors to give the gift of life and improve the quality of life of kidney patients.



# FOCUS

on patients

NKF Chief Medical Officer Joseph Vassalotti, MD, answers patients' questions. [📄](#)

**45 TRAININGS**  
of THE BIG ASK:  
THE BIG GIVE in FY21

**5 ONLINE FORUMS**  
for kidney patients with  
11,534 members

## WHAT'S NEW:

**T**HE NATIONAL KIDNEY FOUNDATION is the largest, most comprehensive, and longstanding patient-centric organization dedicated to the awareness, prevention, and treatment of kidney disease in the U.S. Most importantly, we use our resources to tackle the critical big-picture issues that individual patients can't do alone.

- Of the 37 million adults in the U.S. with kidney disease, a disproportionate number are people of color. **Seeking to understand and address some of the health disparities facing kidney patients**, NKF joined with the American Society of Nephrology (ASN) to form a joint Task Force to examine the role of race in diagnosing kidney diseases. In July 2020, **our joint Task Force was formed to examine inclusion of race in the estimation of GFR** and its implications for the diagnosis and subsequent management of patients with, or at risk for, kidney diseases. As the largest organizations representing kidney patients, we are committed to ensuring that racial bias does not affect the diagnosis and subsequent treatment of kidney diseases. The Task Force includes a broad range of experts and stakeholders, including patients. In August 2020, we announced the members of the Task Force, and in December 2020, we held a series of public forums seeking input from the kidney community. Read more about the team's findings and recommendations in the chapter "What's to Come in FY22."
- To further help address the health disparities facing the kidney community, NKF launched the first-ever Health Equity Advisory Committee to align our efforts in advocacy, research, education, programs, innovation, and awareness to support healthcare equality. We are working to root out any systemic barriers to our goal that **all people living with kidney disease, or who are at risk, have full access to resources and quality healthcare**.
- We announced a partnership with Renalytix AI (NASDAQ:RNLX) to **improve kidney disease diagnosis and assessment in the earliest stages of the disease** that will ultimately help guide clinical interventions and treatments for improved outcomes and quality of life. NKF and Renalytix AI will collaborate for the first time in their histories on future studies to **assess current care standards in early-stage kidney disease, identify barriers to better care**, and assess opportunities for improvement.
- Healthy.io, the creator of smartphone urinalysis, partnered with NKF to offer its **home urine albumin-to-creatinine ratio (uACR) test kit free to people with type 2 diabetes** who took NKF's Kidney Risk Quiz. The MinuteForYourKidneys.org quiz is part of NKF's "Are You the 33%?" awareness campaign.
- We launched a microsite on [kidney.org](https://www.kidney.org) for patients called "What You Should Know," a **comprehensive resource of the latest information on COVID-19** and kidney disease. Read more about these efforts in the chapter "Kidney Health Awareness for All."
- Independently, in December, we **advanced the discussion of race in the eGFR equation** with the publication of A New Panel Estimated GFR, Including  $\beta$ 2-Microglobulin and  $\beta$ -Trace Protein and Not Including Race, Developed in a Diverse Population in NKF's *American Journal of Kidney Diseases*. The study was led by principal investigator Lesley A. Inker, MD, MS, Division of Nephrology, Tufts Medical Center, Boston. The study found that it is possible to **accurately assess patients for the stages of kidney disease without using race**. The more accurate the diagnosed, the better the treatment options will be considered for each stage, and the better for patients overall.



# KIDNEY HEALTH

*awareness for all*

Actor, activist, entrepreneur,  
Wilmer Valderrama, a funny guy  
with a serious message. ↗

Play Spanish ↗

## WHAT'S NEW:

**R**IGHT NOW, 37 million Americans are affected by kidney disease. Most won't have any symptoms unless their kidneys fail. Life-threatening kidney disease can strike anyone, young or old, and has many causes. Early intervention can make a difference. We are working to reach each and every one of those who are at risk of kidney disease before it progresses to life-threatening stages.

- Within days of the COVID-19 pandemic declaration in March 2020, NKF began an all-out effort to support kidney patients, who face risk of serious illness if they contract the virus. By the first day of this fiscal year, April 1, **we had created and still maintain the microsite [kidney.org/COVID-19](https://www.kidney.org/COVID-19)** to share with patients everything they need to know about the coronavirus and how it affects kidney patients. Our microsite has received more than **a million pageviews and 19.4 million impressions**. Thanks to our improved SEO efforts and the quality of our COVID-19 content, we are ranked **number 1 for many crucial key word searches in Google** regarding vaccination, transplant, kidney disease, and more.
- As the pandemic began to close our country, we **began a series of free, all-access Facebook Live and Zoom episodes for patients** on how to handle their kidney care during the pandemic. We covered urgent topics in both English and Spanish that received great engagement.
  - » **All episodes combined received 159,000 views** (live views and post views).
  - » Our Facebook Live content provided additional value in the form of video vignettes related to specific COVID-19 topics.
  - » To date, the videos have received a combined **184,000 views on YouTube**.
- We produced **short videos for patients on how to** make a DIY mask from a T-shirt; how to properly wash your mask; and shelf-stable recipes.
  - » The videos received a combined **69,000 views across all social platforms**.
- We created a video featuring several of our dedicated staff members, **ensuring patients that we are “still here for them.”**
- During the worst of the pandemic, NKF spokespeople proactively gave interviews to media outlets, and **we issued a series of press releases to raise the red flag about the urgent needs of kidney patients to keep them safe**. The outreach resulted in more than 472 million traditional media impressions and 5.4 million social media impressions.
- We also implemented additional awareness efforts during the pandemic that included:
  - » A **weekly blog from our CEO Kevin Longino** reassured patients, professionals, and the NKF family during the height of uncertainty;
  - » Our senior leadership sent **weekly email blasts** to keep the NKF staff up to date on the ever-changing landscape COVID-19 brought to the world; and
  - » We changed **the NKF logo to an animation reminding everyone to social distance**.
- In September, we relaunched one of our most important awareness campaigns, the **“Are You the 33%?”** campaign, to the general public, who may not know anything about kidney disease or why they should. We may have had to pause the campaign in March 2020, but by September we redesigned it and had it ready to **coincide with Hispanic Heritage Month**. We added a microsite in Spanish. **Actor, activist, entrepreneur Wilmer Valderrama** served as our spokesperson. He also met with Members of Congress to advocate for kidney patients. **Actress Debbie Allen joined the campaign** in February to emphasize the link between type 2 diabetes and the risk of kidney disease. Since the campaign was first launched, it has resulted in phenomenal metrics:
  - » 1.1 billion impressions in traditional media, PSAs, paid and organic social media posts;
  - » 135,000 people have taken the [MinuteForYourKidney.org](https://www.kidney.org/MinuteForYourKidney) quiz;
  - » The quiz conversion rate hit 34%, an industry high; and
  - » 417,000 page views were clocked at the microsite.
- To celebrate Black History Month in February, we launched a **special social media tribute to Black and African Americans** who have made special contributions to advance kidney health, awareness, and treatment.
- Please read about more of our other awareness efforts throughout this annual report.

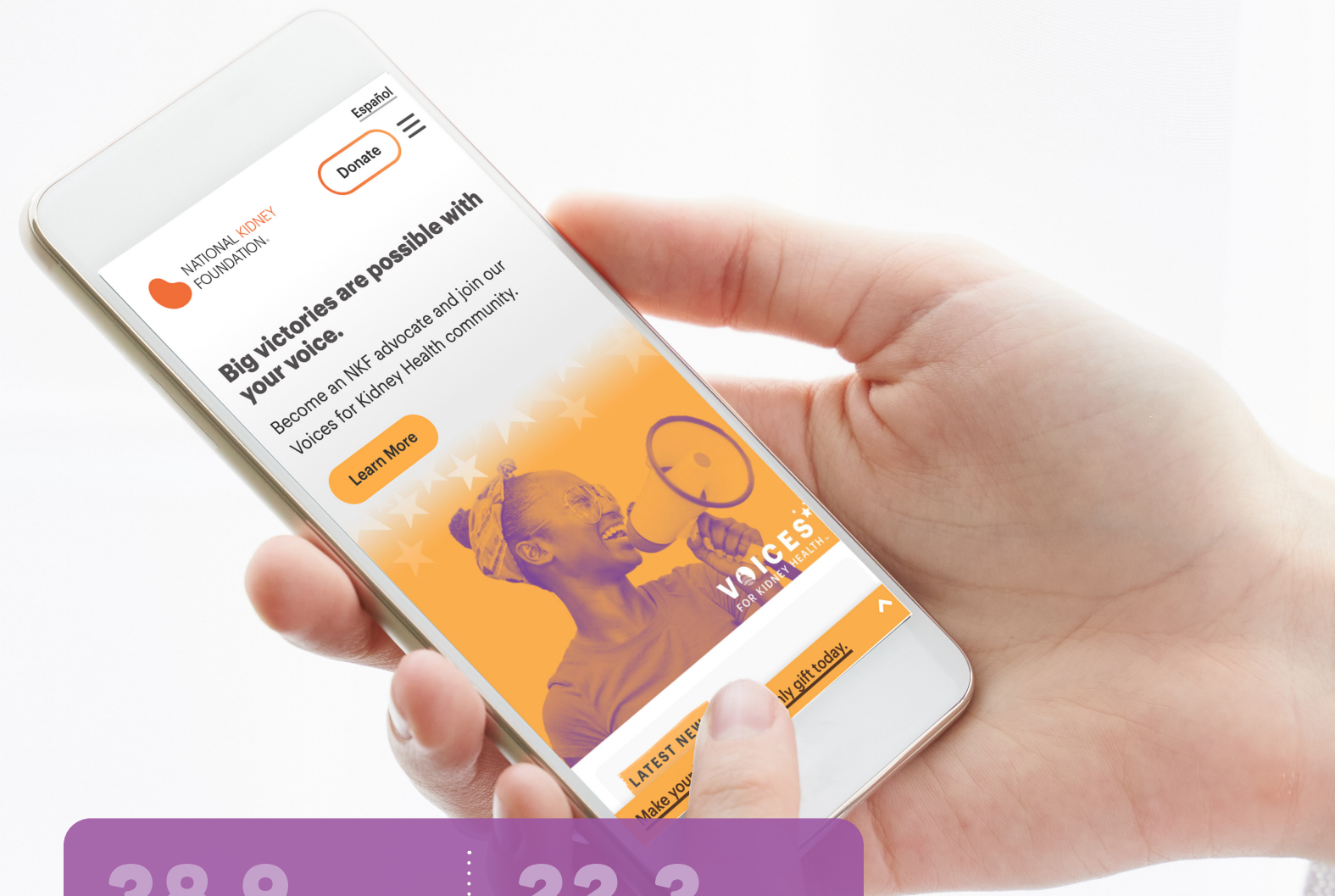
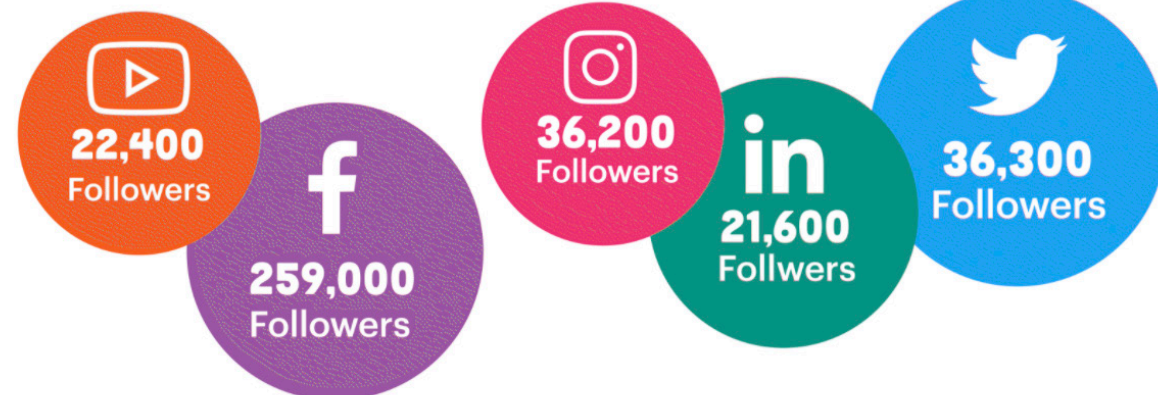


# NKF *by the numbers*

**7**  
billion  
media impressions of  
NKF content in FY21

**4.5**  
million  
Twitter impressions of  
NKF content in FY21

**13.1**  
million  
Facebook impressions  
of NKF content in FY21



**38.9**  
million  
page views,  
kidney.org in FY21

**22.3**  
million  
users on  
kidney.org in FY21

## TOP 3 PAGES ON KIDNEY.ORG

1. 10 Signs You May Have Kidney Disease
2. GFR Calculator Tool
3. Estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate

**34.8**  
million  
unique page views,  
kidney.org in FY21





# NKF's response to COVID-19

Learn how NKF handled to mask or not to mask? [↗](#)

## AT A GLANCE

- 1. NKF never hit pause**—As COVID-19 spread, NKF refocused to offer lifesaving help, advice to kidney patients, professionals, and care partners, and advocated for screenings and protective equipment for health professionals.
- 2. The place to go for kidney info**—Patients and families depended on [kidney.org](#), featuring a dedicated [COVID-19 microsite](#) and a COVID-19/kidney resource bank, for reliable, continually updated information.
- 3. On call for patients throughout the crisis**—The NKF Cares Patient Information Help Line (855.NKF.CARES (855.653.2273); [nkfcares@kidney.org](mailto:nkfcares@kidney.org)) responded to all questions COVID-19 sparked in kidney patients.
- 4. Sharing our message with millions**—NKF developed national social media campaign to engage patients about the crucial importance of vaccinations, and featured [videos](#) and a [podcast with patients, clinicians, and influencers](#).
- 5. Taking the country to “kidney school”**—NKF local offices held more than 30 educational webinars on COVID-19 safety, the impact on transplant and dialysis patients, vaccinations, and more.
- 6. The right information at the right time**—NKF healthcare experts began and continue to host an ongoing Facebook Live series that speaks directly to kidney patients with the most up-to-date and reliable, targeted health information.
- 7. Briefing the government**—NKF local offices held 10 state-level legislative briefings for 90+ lawmakers, informing them about COVID-19’s devastating impact on kidney patients and how to save their lives during this emergency.
- 8. Connecting with state leaders**—NKF reached out to governors nationwide about the importance of vaccine access for the kidney community and the challenges kidney patients face.
- 9. Bilingual COVID-19 content**—NKF Cares staff translated COVID-19 content into [Spanish](#) to better serve the Spanish-speaking kidney community, who were particularly affected by the crisis.
- 10. Speaking up and speaking out for kidney patients**—NKF spokespeople were out front immediately on all major media outlets in the U.S. and Canada. Our efforts reached hundreds of millions of people to help them stay safe, protect life-saving medical procedures during lockdown, and advance critical care needed for kidney patients.



# MAKING LIVES BETTER

## research



Learn the ABCs of  
the new NKF Patient  
Network [↗](#)

## WHAT'S NEW:


**W**ITHOUT NKF'S ANNUAL SUPPORT of research and professional education over the last seven decades, many innovations would have never been developed. The worldwide shutdown in fiscal year 2021 due to the pandemic didn't lessen our commitment to this critical work and only increased our sense of urgency to support professionals in their quest to make patients' lives better.

- NKF launched the first-ever national registry for patients at all stages of kidney disease called the **NKF Patient Network**. It is the only kidney disease registry that has both patient-entered data combined with electronic medical records (EMR). Patients with all stages of kidney disease can register and add their important health information. This personal data combined with the patients' **EMR information can then be used in scientific investigation and research**. By joining the network, patients will not only help build this important data set, but they will have access to on-going clinical trials; health tips; individualized patient education for their specific stage of the disease; as well as joining a community of other patients. The NKF Patient Network will be an important tool for both patients and clinicians.
- In August 2020, we **announced a partnership with Geisinger health systems** on the NKF Patient Network. Geisinger clinicians will encourage patients with kidney disease to enroll in the NKF Patient Network and thereby help **build this dataset so important for researchers**.
- **Research fellows were recognized for their excellence** in basic and clinical research at the **annual National Young Investigators Forum (YIF)** in July 2020. Regional winners were invited to participate virtually and compete for national accolades based on original research they presented at the forum. Final awards were determined through an open competition that was judged by independent clinical experts. The 2020 winners in both categories include: **Basic Science: 1<sup>st</sup> place** winner Fabian Bock, MD, PhD, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN, for his project, RAC1 Maintains Renal Epithelial Integrity and Cytoskeletal Organization and is Required for Normal Nephron and Collecting Duct Development; **2<sup>nd</sup> place:** Joseph Leeds, MD, University of Virginia Health System, Charlottesville, VA, for his project, Lack of DJ-1 Amplifies Sepsis-Associated Acute Kidney Injury; **3<sup>rd</sup> place:** Anamaria Tatomir, MD, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, for her project, A Novel Genetically Defined Mouse Model of Hypertensive Nephropathy; **Clinical Research: 1<sup>st</sup> place:** Dinushika Mohottige, MD, MPH, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC, for her project, A Tale of Two Neighborhoods: Association of Neighborhood-Level Social and Environmental Contexts with High CKD Prevalence; **2<sup>nd</sup> place:** Simon Hsu, MD, MS, University of Washington, Seattle, WA for his project, Serum 25-Hydroxyvitamin D Clearance Is Reduced in Chronic Kidney Disease; **3<sup>rd</sup> place:** Matthew Sinclair, MD, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC, for his project, Differences in Clinical Phenotype, Bacterial Genotype, And Outcomes in Hemodialysis-Dependent Patients in The Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteremia Group-Prospective Cohort Study. The National Young Investigators Forum was funded through educational grants provided by Amgen and AstraZeneca.
- In December, NKF and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) co-sponsored a **scientific workshop on "Developing Treatments for Early Stages of Common, Chronic Kidney Diseases: Clinical Trial Considerations."** Lesley Inker, MD MS, and Hiddo Lambers Heerspink co-chaired the Workshop supported by a multi-disciplinary planning committee. There were more than 90 participants representing government and regulatory agencies (FDA and European Medicines Agency), academic researchers, industry, health economists and payers, and patients.



# CHANGING LAWS

*and influencing minds*

Big victories are possible when  
the voices of patients come  
together as one. 

## WHAT'S NEW:

**A**CCCELERATING CHANGE IN KIDNEY HEALTH takes deliberate effort to influence the minds of others to see the danger of inaction. Whether it be before lawmakers, public health officials or the general public, NKF is committed to sharing the urgent needs of kidney patients, and raising awareness kidney health, and the dangers of kidney disease.

- This fiscal year, we held two Kidney Patient Summits to advocate for kidney patients with U.S. policymakers. Because of the COVID-19 shutdown in March 2020, **the 7th Annual Kidney Patient Summit was postponed to September 2020**. Our advocates from nearly all 50 states and actor, activist, entrepreneur, producer **Wilmer Valderrama** met virtually with lawmakers and policy experts to advance kidney disease prevention, early detection, treatment, research, and access to transplants, including living organ donation. Read more about federal legislation in the chapter “Advancing Kidney Transplantation” and state legislation in the chapter “NKF Serving the Local Communities.”
- In March 2021, we hosted our 8th Annual Kidney Patient Summit, and **it was one of our most well-represented advocacy summits yet**. We brought together 230 kidney health advocates from around the country to meet virtually with Congressional delegations to inspire action for kidney health. Once again, **Wilmer Valderrama** joined the meetings to amplify our calls for change and draw attention to the “Are You the 33%?” public awareness campaign to reach the 1 in 3 Americans at risk for developing kidney disease.
- In December 2020, we called on the incoming **Biden-Harris administration to prioritize kidney health in their first 100 days in office**. We urged the new administration to see kidney disease as a public health crisis. Kidney disease sits at the intersection of three forces that shape health care: first, the new coronavirus became a particular risk to kidney patients; then it was discovered that COVID was damaging kidneys of otherwise healthy people; and lastly, the events of 2020 brought into focus the overall and prevailing inequality and healthcare disparities in communities of color, where both kidney disease and COVID pose a disproportionate risk.
- COVID-19 wreaked havoc on our world over fiscal 2021 in many ways, and **we stepped up each time a new issue arose**.
  - » In May 2020, we joined forces with the American Society of Nephrology to urge **the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to pay attention to the needs of kidney patients as the country was shutting down**. Specifically, we fought for the adoption of policies and procedures to ensure kidney patients, and clinicians have access to personal protective equipment, have priority access to COVID-19 testing, and have early access to a vaccine.
  - » We added the weight of our name to a coalition of dozens of patient organizations on guidelines for policymakers **to ensure that patients would have continued access to appropriate telehealth services** during and after the COVID-19 public health emergency.
  - » When the vaccine was first rolled out, we urged the federal government to **prioritize kidney patients and kidney care professionals** in receiving access to COVID-19 vaccines to reduce their increased risk of severe morbidity and mortality. We also asked the federal government to develop an infrastructure to support the dissemination of the COVID-19 vaccine to kidney patients.
  - » At the first signs of the pandemic, we fought for vulnerable patients and workers in dialysis centers and **applauded the Biden Administration when they announced its new partnership with dialysis clinics nationwide to facilitate COVID-19 vaccination of patients with kidney failure**.



- The pandemic disrupted our lives in many ways, including how it disproportionately affected communities of color, where there were higher death rates and lack of access to healthcare. **We called for affordable healthcare for all** access to medication, patient choice, access to transplantation and home dialysis.
- On the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, our country faced yet another crisis – violence toward people of color. **We turned our attention to advocating for the end of systemic racial inequality**, especially in health care. At the policy level, we urged the federal government to provide **quality, disaggregated data on all tests, hospitalizations, discharges, and deaths from COVID-19** so we may fully understand the scope of the impact on communities of color. We asked that the government ensure priority testing, contact tracing, vaccination, and funding to high-risk communities, low-income neighborhoods, and communities of color. We also advocated for long-term investments in public health infrastructure in traditionally under-served communities and more funding for kidney research and targeted awareness. Read more about our efforts throughout this report.

- In September 2020, NKF partnered with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) **to encourage everyone, especially patients with kidney disease, to get a flu shot**. COVID-19 made it more important than ever that Americans be vaccinated against influenza. We recognized the need to reduce the number of hospitalizations during COVID-19 and the burden on the overtaxed health care system.
- As you read in the section “Advancing Kidney Transplantation,” we saw the results of our patients’ and staffs’ advocacy efforts when five states, Kentucky, Missouri, New Jersey, Utah, and Washington, passed state legislation that protects living donors against insurance discrimination. We won’t stop until all states have passed this important protection.

**191 ADVOCATES** representing 43 states attend  
2021 Kidney Patient Summit in Washington, D.C.

**126 LEGISLATORS**  
co-sponsor Living Donor  
Protection Act

Source: National Kidney Foundation

**138 LEGISLATORS**  
**CO-SPONSOR**  
Comprehensive Immunosuppressive  
Drug Coverage for Kidney  
Transplant Patients Act, signed  
into law in December



Our advocates and actor, activist, entrepreneur, producer Wilmer Valderrama met virtually with lawmakers.



# AIDING

# The professionals

29,000  
clinicians educated by  
continuing  
education activities

115  
CME/CE activities in FY21

5,125  
professional members

## WHAT'S NEW:

- In February of 2021, we launched the first **Pediatric Chronic Kidney Disease Risk Calculator**, a tool specifically designed to assess chronic kidney disease (CKD), also known as **kidney disease, in children**. The **tool will help professionals better predict** the risk of disease progression than any method before. The calculator development was led by the NIH funded Chronic Kidney Disease in Children (CKiD) Study and NKF Board Member Bradley A. Warady, MD, Chief of the Division of Nephrology and Director, Dialysis and Transplantation at Children's Mercy Kansas City.
- In December, we released our commentary in support of the 2020 recommendations of the International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis (ISPD). **Our team of experts** studied the new guidelines and **supported its call for a more holistic and patient-centered approach** to care. Our Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative (KDOQI) overwhelmingly endorsed the ISPD's **new direction that physicians** should avoid a "cookie-cutter" approach to, and assessment of peritoneal dialysis use in their patients.
- In partnership with the IGA Nephropathy Foundation of America, Inc. (IGANF), **we submitted the Voice of the Patient Report on IgA Nephropathy** to the U.S Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The report was a compilation of **the experiences of hundreds** of care partners and patients with IgA nephropathy, a disease that can lead to kidney failure. This important work will help shape drug development, policy, and treatment options for years into the future.
- In August of 2020, in collaboration with the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, **we published the 2020 Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative (KDOQI) Clinical Practice Guideline on Nutrition in Chronic Kidney Disease** that will **guide health care practitioners who treat people with all stages of kidney disease**. Global adoption and implementation of the KDOQI guidelines has dramatically changed all aspects of chronic kidney disease care in the years since the original nutrition guideline was published.
- In July of 2020, we joined the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) to **launch a new Kidney Health Evaluation for Patients with Diabetes** measure. The new HEDIS measure will **dramatically increase testing in adults with diabetes** to improve kidney disease detection and awareness. This measure has already engaged America's **health insurance plans** in quality improvement for diabetic kidney disease, including Aetna®, Blue Cross Blue Shield®, UnitedHealth Group® and others.
- NKF gathered a team of experts in nephrology, transplantation, hepatology, and infectious diseases for the **KDOQI review of the KDIGO Hepatitis C Guidelines for Clinicians** and **provided the most up-to-date perspectives on this evolving field**. The commentary was released in April 2020 and is a great example of how KDOQI can assist practitioners in deciding how best to implement a global guideline in the U.S. clinical practice environment.
- Soon after the COVID-19 crisis emerged, we launched the NKF Clinical Digest – COVID-19, which provided professionals a compilation of the **latest clinical information regarding COVID-19**, curated by NKF subject matter experts. **We made it easy for the interdisciplinary team to find current and relevant data** on the implications of COVID-19 for people living with kidney diseases.



"I am very pleased that the National Kidney Foundation is making the Pediatric Kidney Failure Risk Calculator widely available to healthcare professionals,"

NKF Board Member Bradley A. Warady, MD, Children's Mercy Kansas City



# CORPORATE *champion*

"My brother gave me the gift of a kidney donation and did so despite the financial implications. At UnitedHealth Group, we know it doesn't always work out that way, that the financial barriers are significant, and that living-donor transplants have better clinical outcomes. We believe if we can continue to remove financial barriers, we will save lives."

Andrea Deanovic Schmidt, OptumHealth Transplant Resource Services product director and The HERO Program co-creator.

## NKF HONORS UNITEDHEALTH GROUP® WITH 2021 CORPORATE INNOVATOR AWARD

UnitedHealth Group was selected to receive the 2021 Corporate Innovator Award from the National Kidney Foundation.

In June 2020, UnitedHealth Group launched The HERO Program™ (Helping Employees Receive Organs), which provides financial support to help cover expenses incurred as a result of living organ donation, such as lost wages, travel, and lodging for individuals who donate a kidney, a liver, or bone marrow to a company employee or family member. Living donors do not need to be enrolled in a UnitedHealthcare plan or employed by UnitedHealth Group to participate. The HERO Program is the first program by a large employer that covers living organ donation expenses for employees at other organizations.

"Eliminating financial barriers is key to increasing the number of living organ donations," said Kevin Longino, Chief Executive Officer of NKF and a kidney transplant patient. "The National Kidney Foundation applauds UnitedHealth Group for its leadership role in setting this extraordinary precedent, and its willingness to share the financial and legal models it used to launch the HERO Program™ with any employer interested in extending this life-saving benefit to employees and potential future living organ donors."

"UnitedHealth Group is proud to support our employees with this unique benefit and we invite other companies to join us in working to remove the financial barriers for living organ donors. Not only will this program save lives, it offers a significant value to employers in reducing the cost of care for employees with both chronic and end-stage kidney disease," said Dr. Jon Friedman, Chief Medical Officer of Optum Medical Benefits Management and The HERO Program co-creator.

The Corporate Innovator Award was established to recognize industry partners that have advanced the field of nephrology or transplantation by addressing an unmet medical need, through new programming or improving upon an existing practice, therapeutic, or technology.

Companies interested in extending this life-saving benefit to their employees and potential future living organ donors can visit [unitedhealthgroup.com/HERO](https://unitedhealthgroup.com/HERO) to learn more.

NKF presented the award during the annual NKF Spring Clinical Meetings, which were held in April 2021.



"The National Kidney Foundation applauds UnitedHealth Group for its leadership role in setting this extraordinary precedent, and its willingness to share the financial and legal models it used to launch the HERO Program"

Kevin Longino, NKF Chief Executive Officer and a kidney transplant patient



# NKF SERVING

## The local community



Watch how NKF teams across the country stepped up during a pandemic. [🔗](#)

**A**S THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC raged on, NKF teams across the country worked tirelessly to reimagine patient programming for a virtual setting, allowing families to seek support and guidance from the safety of home. Our local staff executed more than 100 programs in only the first six months of lockdown.

## PROGRAMMATIC IMPACT

### Increasing living kidney donation

**THE BIG ASK: THE BIG GIVE (BABG)**, a program designed to help patients find a living donor, further expanded its reach this year with the launch of BABG—First Steps to Transplant, a program designed specifically to support those who haven't yet been placed on the kidney transplant waitlist.

Our teams also identified the importance of connecting with underserved communities most at risk for both kidney disease and COVID-19. NKF local offices in Colorado and Pennsylvania became the first to host virtual **BABG opportunities entirely in Spanish**.

### Educating kidney health professionals

Embracing the virtual space also made it possible to **expand our Renal Roundtable lecture series**, providing local kidney health professionals with the latest research, information, and opportunities to network with others who share their passion for improving the lives of kidney patients.

**More than 70 Renal Roundtables** were held virtually by **20 local offices** last year and **raised \$430,000**. That is **50 more events hosted** than in 2019.

## ADVOCACY IMPACT

### Advancing public policy to protect living donors

Passionate NKF Advocates and staff influenced the **passage of state legislation to protect living donors with The Living Donor Protection Act (LDPA) across 16 states** in 2020–2021. This critical legislation **will prevent job losses,**

**denial of insurance coverage**, and significantly higher life and disability insurance premiums among individuals who selflessly donate a kidney to save the life of a loved one or complete stranger.

### Urging policymakers to prioritize kidney patients

As families affected by kidney disease suffered treatment hurdles and setbacks, and the agonizing loss of loved ones to COVID-19, **local NKF staff and volunteers set out to raise their voices** with state leaders. **Local offices and Affiliates sent letters to nearly 30 governors** across the country, urging them to **prioritize kidney patients** in their plans to distribute the **COVID-19 vaccine**, as well as improve accessibility by allowing patients to receive shots at dialysis facilities.

But they didn't stop there, in more than 10 states, including Maryland, Minnesota, Virginia, Ohio and North Carolina, local teams **hosted virtual briefings with state legislators to educate them about COVID-19's effects** on kidney patients.

State by state, many of our offices are working to pass state laws to protect living donors and advance kidney health.



## FUNDRAISING IMPACT

### Uniting our communities

Though unable to gather in person, Kidney Walks **connected families, fundraisers, and advocates in more than 74 communities** across the country with the introduction of **Kidney Walk LaceUp**, a campaign to encourage participants to join in from their neighborhood local park in a fun, virtual setting. This new addition to the decades-long Kidney Walk program successfully **activated kidney health warriors across all 50 states for the first time ever** and raised an incredible **\$3.6 million** when other nonprofits were closing their doors.

### Reimagining the social experience

Capitalizing on the success of our virtual Kidney Walk efforts, teams enacted creative strategies to make friends and loved ones feel connected while safely raising funds and awareness in new ways. For the first time, the **annual San Francisco-based NKF Authors Luncheon**, an event that **brings together prominent authors and book lovers**, opened its virtual doors to attendees across the country. The national collaboration resulted in **nearly \$300,000 raised** and a larger audience than ever. Meanwhile, NKF Serving Kentucky hosted their **first-ever drive-in gala** with “A Night Under the Stars,” raising \$130,000 for NKF programs in the region. **In 20 states this year**, local teams completely reimagined or restructured traditional social event fundraisers for virtual settings.

### Driving additional dollars to NKF programs

Though uncertainty was the name of the game this season, the **NKF Konica Minolta Golf Classic** program provided golfers and staff with a **touch of near normalcy**: the opportunity to gather in the safety of the outdoors to fund our fight against kidney disease.

An incredible **19 of 27 annual tournaments—from Kentucky to Iowa**—were able to continue as planned despite relocation hurdles, format changes, and additional safety precautions. One tournament, hosted by NKF Serving New England, even **exceeded their past year’s fundraising by an unbelievable 365%**!

### Finding resilience through the generosity of individuals

Through it all, **YOU stuck with us**. Despite personal hardship, so many dedicated members of the kidney community extended their hands in unimaginable ways. The generosity of individuals across the country resulted in **36% growth in year-over-year revenue on Giving Tuesday**, a worldwide day of giving, with an additional **\$32,000 of new fund-raising dollars** on #GivingTuesdayNOW in May, an emergency response to the global pandemic.

Even greater still, nearly **400 committed partners** pledged their long-term support to sustain our efforts in communities nationwide with a **monthly gift**.

We are honored and proud of the outpouring of support from every state and, most of all, the resilience of our NKF family. **We are whole because of you.**

**There is no “us”  
without “you.”**  
Give, volunteer, or  
advocate to help win  
the fight against  
kidney disease.



Young Juliana Wright, who has only one kidney, promotes kidney health.



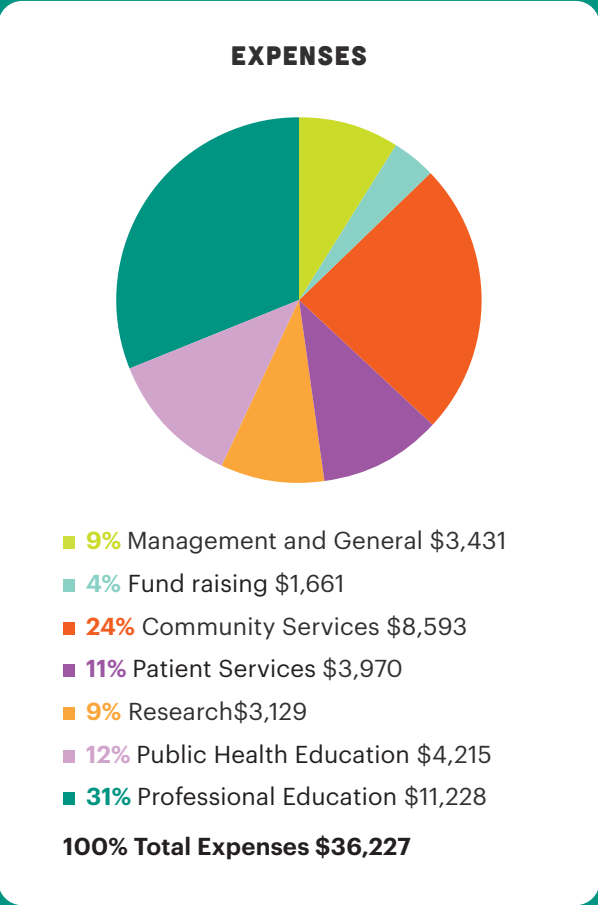
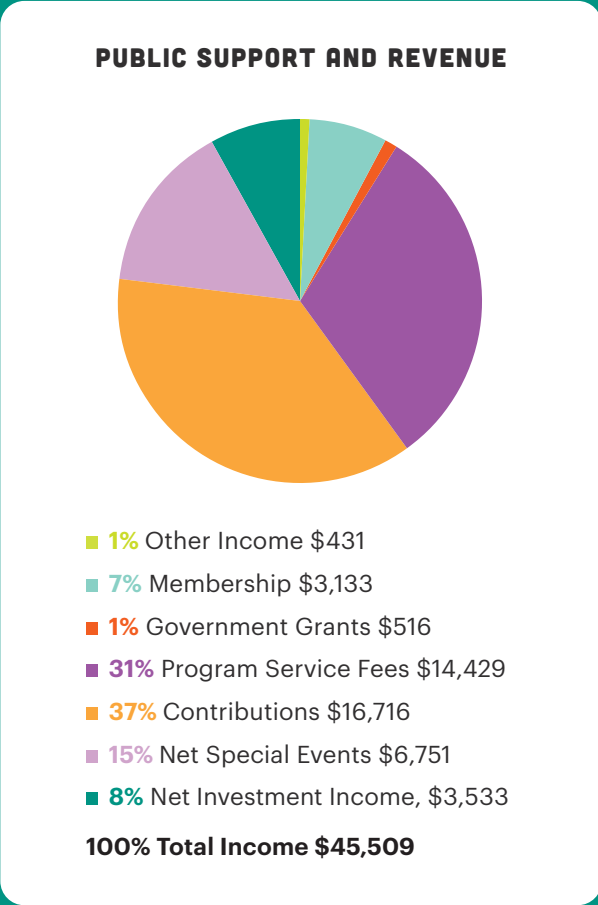
# OUR FINANCIAL *overview*

**T**HOUSANDS OF PEOPLE like you around the country have given their time, talents, and treasures all year to raise millions to fund important work led by NKF. After COVID-19 hit the world, our mission became more important and critical than ever before, which is why we are so thankful for our many patrons who have continued to support kidney patients.



See how NKF redefined how we walk for kidney health. [↗](#)

## AUDITED FINANCIALS FOR NKF WITHOUT AFFILIATES — FY21 All figures are in thousands.



**Assets**

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$14,864
Investments	\$15,887
Accounts Receivable	\$2,159
Inventories of Educational and Campaign Material	\$84
Prepaid Expenses	\$1,236
Property, Plant and Equipment (net)	\$581
Other Assets	\$4,329
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$39,140</b>

**Liabilities and Net Assets**

Loans Payable	\$3,619
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$5,342
Deferred Income	\$7,824
Other Liabilities	\$337
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$17,122</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	
Without donor restrictions	\$12,620
With donor restrictions	\$ 9,398
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$39,140</b>

View the complete [National Kidney Foundation FY21 financials](#)



# COMBINED FINANCIALS FOR NKF AND AFFILIATES

## — FY21

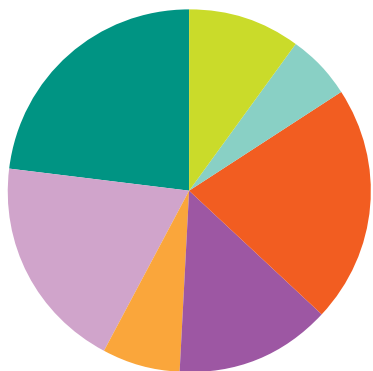
All figures are in thousands.

### PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE



- 11% Other Income \$6,388
  - 1% Membership Dues \$797
  - 10% Government Grants \$6,237
  - 26% Program Service Fees \$15,486
  - 35% Contributions \$20,721
  - 17% Net Special Events \$9,998
- 100% Total Income \$59,627**

### EXPENSES



- 10% Management and General \$5,037
  - 6% Fundraising \$2,995
  - 21% Community Services \$10,994
  - 14% Patient Services \$7,069
  - 7% Research \$3,491
  - 19% Public Health Education \$9,705
  - 23% Professional Education \$11,755
- 100% Total Expenses \$51,046**
- 84% Total Program Expenses  
16% Total Support Expenses

### Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$20,932
Investments	\$30,719
Accounts Receivable	\$3,097
Inventories of Educational and Campaign Material	\$84
Prepaid Expenses	\$1,536
Property, Plant and Equipment (net)	\$2,384
Other Assets	\$5,210
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$63,962</b>

### Liabilities and Net Assets

Loans Payable	\$3,619
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$6,472
Deferred Income	\$8,250
Other Liabilities	\$1,051
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$19,392</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	
Without donor restrictions	\$28,319
With donor restrictions	\$16,251
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$63,962</b>

## OUR FINANCIALS

## INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS

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\* **Hero Circle supporters:** Hero Circle Members are individuals who invest in the National Kidney Foundation with an annual gift of \$1,000+. These gifts exclusively support our annual fund which provides important, unrestricted resources that help us advance our mission and values.



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Denise Tinkler  
David Tipton  
Al Togut\*  
Richard Tompkin  
Sina Toussi\*  
Tommie Towns  
Diane Trachy  
William L. Transier  
Michael Raymond Trauffer  
Barbara Traylor  
Joseph Tremonte\*  
Philip Clark Trevathan  
Helen Trigazis  
Bruce Wayne Trimnal, Jr.  
Paul Trokhan  
Sandra Trowbridge  
Ellen Tucker  
Tim Tucker  
Andrew Turner  
Joe Turner\*  
Robertta Turner  
Sara Turner  
William Turney\*  
Karen Unterberger  
Tony UV  
Richard VaCula  
Margaret Vail\*  
Michael J. Valente  
Teresa Detoma Van Vlake  
David and Sally Vanella\*  
Ruben Velez  
Lalitha Venkatramani  
Mark and Donna Veyette  
Bernadette Vincent  
David Vincent  
Richard Virshup\*  
Subramaniam Iyer Viswanathan  
Albert Vitalo  
Melissa Vlak\*

Greg Vochis  
Greg Vogel  
Sheila VonEuer\*  
Shetal Vyas\*  
Rob Waddell  
Lowell Wainwright  
Bill Walljasper\*  
Dan Walsh  
Mary Walsh\*  
Dr. Bradley and Mrs. Barbara Warady\*  
Thomas Warne  
Tim Warner  
William C. Warren II  
Susan Watkins  
James Wattles  
Paul Weatherby  
Mary Jane Weatherford\*  
Teresa Weathers\*  
Stephen Webb  
Frank Webber\*  
Heather N. Weber  
The Joseph and Felicia Weber Family Foundation\*  
Lisa Weber  
Adam Weiss  
Larry Weiss\*  
Vivian Weiss\*  
Barb Weller  
Ben and Diane Wells Charitable Fund  
Jim Welsh  
Keith Milton Welsh  
Rita M. Wenzel  
Heather Wertin  
Robert Wesley  
Deborah West\*  
Ralph Clay Westbay  
Kris Whalen\*  
Margaret White  
Mario White  
Kay Whyburn  
Sarah Wiesner\*  
Barbara A. Wiggins  
James Wiggs  
Michelle Wilhelmi  
Patricia Wilkinson  
Stephen Wilkinson  
Matthias Will\*

Greer Scott Williams  
Gregory Williams\*  
John Williams  
Mary Elizabeth Williams  
Michael and Virginia Williams\*  
Ronald Williams  
Rose Williams  
Susan Sherard Williams  
Wendy Williams  
Willie Williams  
Holly Wilson  
James Wilson  
John Wilson  
Kimberly Wilson  
Mary Ellen Wilson  
David Carlton Wingfield  
Bernadette Winiker  
Vickie Wise  
Missy Wisniewski\*  
Howard Wong  
Anita Wood  
Barry Wood  
Donald R. Wood  
Kristin Wood  
Melinda Wood  
Stephen Wood  
Jacqueline Woodford\*  
Christopher Theodore Wozniak  
Tanya Wozniak  
Bruce Wyand  
Aaron Wyche\*  
Anju Yadav\*  
Roger Yancey  
Lynne Yao, MD  
Mark Ybarra  
Dennis Yutchishen  
John Zacharia\*  
George Zallie  
John Zanger  
Joshua Zaritsky\*  
Mark Zaruba  
Judith Zauner\*  
Greg Zavoyna\*  
Barry Zeller\*  
Rachael Zeltzer\*  
Noel Zike  
Louis Zulli

## ESTATES AND TRUSTS

### \$10,000+

Richard Claire Affleck Trust  
Janet Andersen Estate  
Helen Auer Trust  
Mary Barsam Estate  
Howard Arthur Beeten Trust  
Richard Bernstein Trust  
Ruth R. Berry Estate  
Edwin H. Blazier Trust  
Brighthouse Financial  
Nancy A. Brown Trust  
Donna Bytwork Trust  
Charles and JoAnn Caldwell Estate  
Carolyn Chick Estate  
Ronald Eugene Chrisman Estate

Winnifred P. Clark Trust  
Judith Corry Trust  
Tana Corsi Estate  
Donald Denton Estate  
Mark A. Devinney Estate  
Richard P. Elgin Estate  
Joyce Fly Estate  
Luz Marina Frohwein Estate  
Claralee Hargrave Estate  
Richard K. Haupt Estate  
Flora Paxton Hickman Estate  
Dorothy Horwitz Family Trust  
Peggy Howard Estate  
Pearl Hughes Estate  
Gerald Leonard Jacobs Estate  
Annie Langen Estate

Frank J. Leikam Estate  
Elizabeth Lee Louie Estate  
Edith M. Lutchkus Estate  
Judith Ann McCollough Estate  
Daniel Winton McSwain Estate  
Minchin Trust  
Donald W. Morrison Trust  
Frank Nehring Estate  
Angeline Paradiso Estate  
Clara C. Perini Trust  
John Patrick Perryman Estate  
Mary Powell Estate  
Lora Lee Prater Estate  
Theodora Raven Estate  
Sarah V. Ridgeway Estate  
Janet L. Rieckenberg Estate

Fleurette S. Roberts Estate  
Antonia Schneider Estate  
Max Shostack Estate  
Norman Smith Estate  
Evelyn Smith-Roberson Estate  
Dorothy J. Stebbins Estate  
Lawrence Stein Estate  
Lonnie Stephens Estate  
David H. and Irma K. Todd Estate  
Ana Torres Estate  
Alan G. Wittrock Estate  
William M. Yeaman Estate  
Richard L. Zerbe Estate

## CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION PARTNERS

### \$10,000+

[24]7.ai  
AbbVie  
Advicenne  
Affix Health Pte. Ltd.  
Akebia Therapeutics, Inc.  
Alderson Loop, LLC  
Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Allegheny Health Network  
Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
American Kidney Institute  
American Renal Associates  
AmeriHealth Administrators  
Amgen, Inc.  
Ampco-Pittsburgh Corporation and Union Electric Steel Corporation  
Anheuser-Busch Companies, LLC.  
Anthem, Inc.  
Apellis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Arbor Research Collaborative for Health  
Arthrex, Inc.  
AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP  
Atlantic, Tomorrow's Office  
AT&T  
Attain, LLC  
Aurinia Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Avera McKennan Hospital & University Health Center  
Barnes-Jewish Hospital

Baxter  
Bayer  
BB&T Corporation  
Carolyn W. and Charles T. Beaird Family Foundation\*  
Berkadia Commercial Mtg, LLC  
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center  
BioCryst Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Blue Cross Blue Shield Association  
Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Brighthouse Life Insurance Company  
Bristol Meyers Squibb  
Calithera Biosciences, Inc.  
Camp Construction Services  
Cantel Medical  
Capital Group  
Cara Therapeutics  
Carahsoft Technology Corp.  
CareDx  
John and Margo Catsimatidis Foundation, Inc.\*  
CBRE Group, Inc.  
Centene Management Company/Buckeye Health  
Central Construction Management, LLC  
Centura Transplant at Porter Adventist Hospital  
Cerium Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Charity Supply, Inc.  
ChemoCentryx, Inc.  
Chinook Therapeutics U.S., Inc.  
Cigna  
Cleveland Clinic  
CME MediQuest  
Collins Building Services, Inc.  
Colorado BUILT, LLC  
Colorado Kidney Care/Denver Nephrologists, P.C.  
Comagine Health  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Community Health Charities  
Community Thrift  
Cowden Associates, Inc.  
John and Maurine Cox Foundation\*  
Cozen O'Connor, P.C.  
CVS Health  
Dallas Nephrology Associates  
Dallas Renal Group  
DaVita, Inc.  
Delta Dental  
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Dialysis Clinic, Inc.  
D M DiLella Family Foundation\*  
Donnini-Rudolph Family Foundation\*  
Donor Alliance, Inc.  
East River Medical Imaging

ECC Group, Inc.  
Eisai, Inc.  
Equus Capital Partners Ltd.  
Ernst & Young, U.S., LLP  
Exelixis, Inc.  
Fiesta Restaurant Group, Inc.  
First National Bank  
Fresenius Medical Care  
Fryer Private Wealth Management Group of Wells Fargo Advisors  
G & C Food Distributors & Brokers, Inc.  
Genzyme  
Global Health Products, Inc.  
Stephen A. and Diana L. Goldberg Foundation, Inc.\*  
Goldfinch Bio  
John & Marcia Goldman Foundation\*  
GSK GlaxoSmithKline  
Hartford HealthCare  
Harvard Club of Boston  
Healthmap Solutions  
Healthy.io  
Heuser & Heuser, L.L.P.  
Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield  
HM Life Insurance Company  
Holland & Knight, LLP  
Horizon Therapeutics plc  
IAA, Inc.



iHeartMedia Management Services, Inc.  
The Illuminating Company  
InMed Medical  
Insurance Auto Auctions  
Intuitive Surgical, Inc.  
IOA RE, Inc. Companion Life Insurance Co.  
J & J Shared Services  
Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Jazz at Lincoln Center  
JLL  
Johns Hopkins Accounts Payable Shared Service Center  
Johnson & Johnson  
Kaiser Permanente  
Kenmore Realty Corporation  
Kenneth L. and Eva S. Smith Foundation\*  
Kidney Specialists of Minnesota  
Konica Minolta Business Solutions, U.S.A., Inc.  
Koppers, Inc.  
Lane Office  
Licensed Practical Nurses Association of the District of Columbia, Inc.  
Lise Strickler and Mark Gallogly Charitable Fund  
Logisticare Solutions, Inc.  
Louis Berkman Foundation\*  
Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford  
Lupus Research Alliance  
Make A Difference Foundation, Inc.  
Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals

CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION PARTNERS CONT.

The Marcus & Millichap Company Foundation  
Marcus & Millichap, Inc.  
Massachusetts General Hospital Transplantation  
Mayo Clinic  
The McCutchen Foundation\*  
Mechanical Construction Services, Inc.  
Medical Information MEDITECH  
Medtrition, Inc.  
Merck & Co., Inc.  
Miami Valley Hospital Foundation  
Microsoft Corporation  
Mid-Atlantic Nephrology Associates, P.A.  
Mid-South Transplant Foundation, Inc.  
Mion Family Foundation, Inc.\*  
ModivCare  
John Moffitt Charitable Foundation\*  
Moonstone Nutrition  
MUFG Union Bank, N.A.  
Natera, Inc.  
National Football League Foundation  
National Kidney Services, Inc.  
Paul and Angela Nelson DAF  
Nephroceuticals, LLC  
Nephrology Associates, P.C.  
North Texas BUILT LLC  
Norton Healthcare  
Novartis AG  
Novo Nordisk A/S  
O'Connell Electric Company, Inc.

Omeros Corporation  
One Legacy  
Opko Pharmaceuticals  
Optum, Inc.  
Others First, Inc.  
Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc.  
Outset Medical, Inc.  
PA Department of Health, Bureau of Family Health  
Penske Corporation, Inc.  
Pentec Health  
Pfizer, Inc.  
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Quest Diagnostics  
Reata Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Rhythm Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Sanford Health  
Sanofi Genzyme US  
SAP America  
SAP National Security Services, Inc.  
Sarris Candies, Inc.  
Satellite Healthcare  
SBAD TREAS 310  
Seyfarth Shaw LLP  
Shocair-Reda Charitable Foundation, Inc.\*  
Siemens Medical Solutions USA, Inc.  
Spectrum Science  
Spiceology  
SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital  
St. Louis Community Foundation  
SurgiCare of Manhattan

Telligen, Inc.  
Terry Woods—Planet Fitness Growth Partners, LLC  
Tet Family Foundation  
Thomson Reuters Corporation  
Thrivent Action Team Crowd Fund of Infaith Community Foundation  
Tito's Handmade Vodka  
Transplant Genomics, Inc.  
Traverse Therapeutics, Inc.  
Tricida, Inc.  
Tufts University  
UC Health  
United Way  
University of Maryland Medical System  
The University of Michigan Health System  
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC)  
UPMC Corporate  
Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc.  
Veloxis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc.  
Vifor Pharma, Inc. (Relypsa, Inc.)  
Virginia Department of Health Wasserman Foundation\*  
The Wawa Foundation, Inc.  
Wells Fargo  
West Fire Systems, Inc.  
Wilbraham, Lawler & Buba, P.C.  
Wilson Dow Group  
Winifred Glossop and Asenath Evans Fund  
Yale New Haven Hospital Primary Care

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

PLATINUM

Aurinia Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
CVS Kidney Care, LLC.  
Exelixis  
GlaxoSmithKline plc. Quest Diagnostics  
Renalytix

GOLD

Akebia Therapeutics, Inc.  
Amgen Inc.  
Ardelyx  
AstraZeneca plc.  
Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals  
Medtronic plc.  
Merck & Co., Inc.  
Novartis AG  
Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.  
Pfizer Inc.  
Veritx Corp.

SLIVER

Alexion Pharmaceuticals  
Alnylam Pharmaceuticals  
Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals, LLC  
Boehringer Ingelheim  
Bristol-Myers Squibb-Pfizer Alliance  
Eisai Co., Ltd.  
Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Novo Nordisk  
Opko Renal  
Reata Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Sanofi Aventis  
Strive Health

BRONZE

Anji Pharma  
DiaMedica Therapeutics, Inc.  
Kezar Life Sciences



# WHAT'S TO COME in FY22



## WHAT'S NEW:

**A**S YOU REACH THE END OF THE FY21 ANNUAL REPORT, you can see that we have had an unprecedented year. Fiscal year 2022, which had already begun at press time, will be another landmark year at NKF and within the kidney community. Here are just a few highlights of what has begun or is around the corner in our next fiscal year:

- In FY22, **we will unveil the critical results of the NKF/ASN Task Force on Reassessing the Inclusion of Race in Diagnosing Kidney Disease.** The task force gathered to not only reevaluate the long-standing practice of adding a race modifier to kidney function diagnosis, but they are determining to uncover a suitable replacement. We shared the interim report in April 2021 that reviewed alternative methods of testing without a race modifier in the equation. When the final report is issued, we believe the groundbreaking work **will help close gaps** in kidney healthcare for Black and African American people and provide a more accurate approach to the diagnosis and treatment of kidney diseases.
- Our annual 2021 Spring Clinical Meetings fell at the start of FY22 and was a great success. We held it again virtually and with high participation. **Our keynote speaker Aletha Maybank, MD, MPH**, who currently serves as the Chief Health Equity Officer and Senior Vice President for the American Medical Association (AMA), **called out hate and racism as a public health crisis**, one that we all need to address now. "In order to dismantle systemic racism, we must first recognize how it is ingrained in every aspect of society and is constantly operating to drain, exploit, and harm," Dr. Maybank said. "From there, we can take meaningful collective action and ensure accountability, especially at the institutional level, to advance equity and justice across our healthcare and other social systems."
- In FY22, we launched our new **NKF Voices for Kidney Health**<sup>™</sup>, a diverse nationwide community of **dedicated kidney patients and health professional advocates** working with elected officials and other public leaders to create policies that help those living with kidney disease. We expect great things from this initiative, as Voices advocates **work to ensure quality care for patients with kidney disease** and advance policies to protect living donors, promote healthcare equality, spur investment into prevention and research, and expand access to home dialysis. We are grateful for the dedication of these advocates. Go to [voices.kidney.org](https://voices.kidney.org) to learn more and become an advocate.
- In FY22, we are rolling out our **new online children's educational program about kidneys** and how they work. This early education about these critical organs will reach children in grades 5 to 8. Five **kid-friendly educational videos**, narrated by NKF Kid Ambassador Angelica Hale of *America's Got Talent* fame, are available at [kidney.org/kids](https://kidney.org/kids) as well as a teacher toolkit, suggestions for youth to demonstrate or teach others what they have learned, and additional activities for children ages 3 and up. By reaching out to children, we have the best chance of **teaching people healthy habits that protect kidneys throughout life**. They might even influence their parents' habits, too.
- Through the coming fiscal year, **we will build on the success of the "Are You the 33%?"<sup>®</sup> awareness campaign** with **new partnerships**, more targeted marketing, and by **drawing connections** between kidney disease and other chronic illnesses. We will specifically educate those in underserved communities of color currently suffering in many ways due to healthcare inequality. With the number of people at risk of kidney disease, **it is critical that we educate as many Americans as we can** about the importance of knowing their kidney health and speaking with their doctors about their kidney health status.





Fueled by passion and urgency, the National Kidney Foundation is a lifeline for all people affected by kidney disease. As pioneers of scientific research and innovation, we focus on the whole patient through the lens of kidney health. Relentless in our work, we enhance lives through action, education, and accelerating change.

30 E. 33RD ST. | NEW YORK, NY 10016 | [KIDNEY.ORG](https://www.kidney.org)

