



75
YEARS



NATIONAL KIDNEY
FOUNDATION.®

ANNUAL REPORT FY 2025

**37
MILLION**
adults in the U.S. have CKD.



Source: CDC

808,000+
are living with end-stage kidney disease



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The pages within highlight NKF's efforts between April 1, 2024 and March 31, 2025, our fiscal year 2025.

MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP



Anne Davidson Barr
NKF Chair of the Board



Dr. Kirk Campbell
NKF President



Kevin Longino
NKF Chief Executive Officer

WELCOME TO THE NATIONAL KIDNEY FOUNDATION'S FY25 ANNUAL REPORT.

As the National Kidney Foundation marks its 75th Anniversary, we are reminded of how far our community has come—and how much more we can achieve together. Since 1950, NKF has been a trusted leader in kidney health, shaping national policy, advancing clinical standards, and supporting millions of patients and families. That history of impact continues today, strengthened by the dedication of our donors, volunteers, clinicians, and partners across the country.

We drove strong momentum in federal policy. NKF provided expert guidance and public comment as Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) introduced the new Increasing Organ Transplant Access (IOTA) Model, aimed at expanding access to transplantation. Federal agencies finalized several reforms benefiting kidney patients, including the removal of race from KDPI scores and strengthened financial protections for living donors. These changes reflect a growing national commitment to fairness and improved outcomes in kidney care—one that NKF helped shape through years of advocacy and collaboration.

Our commitment to innovation was further demonstrated through the NKF Innovation Fund. This year, NKF supported companies developing next-generation solutions in kidney preservation and therapeutic development. One of these companies, 34Lives, went on to secure a major Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) award—an achievement that underscores the power of early catalytic investment and the potential of donor-supported innovation.

In FY 2024–25, NKF achieved meaningful progress grounded in innovation, equity, and patient-centered care. One of the most significant recognitions of the year was NKF's inclusion in *TIME100 Health* for our leadership in eliminating race from eGFR calculations. This milestone—driven by the NKF-American Society of Nephrology (ASN) Task Force on Reassessing the Inclusion of Race in Diagnosing Kidney Diseases—continues to expand access to earlier, more accurate

evaluation for countless patients. It represents the type of systemic change NKF is uniquely positioned to advance.

NKF also advanced leadership in emerging areas of transplant science. During this period, we convened a first-of-its-kind Externally-Led Patient-Focused Drug Development (EL-PFDD) Meeting on Kidney Xenotransplantation. By elevating patient and caregiver perspectives on xenotransplantation clinical trials, NKF helped ensure that patient experience informs regulatory discussions and the future development of this promising field. The FDA listened. As a result, trials will be more patient-informed, patient-aware, and patient-driven than ever before. We are proud to say that our work helped pave the way for these upcoming clinical trials.

At the same time, NKF continued to deliver high-impact programs that meet patients and families where they are. Through Transplants for All, we supported more than 20,000 people, directly assisting 54 living kidney donations and helping secure living-donor financial protections for 9.5 million residents across three states. We expanded NKF Peers to include mentorship for care partners and launched Peers en Español, offering culturally relevant support to Spanish-speaking patients and donors. These programs reflect our commitment to ensuring that everyone—regardless of background, language, or geography—has access to guidance, empowerment, and hope.

None of this work would be possible without you. Your generosity fuels every program, every advancement, and every step forward for kidney patients nationwide. As we honor 75 years of progress, we do so with deep gratitude—and with a renewed commitment to driving meaningful change in the decades ahead.

Together, we are improving lives and transforming the future of kidney health.

Gratefully,

Anne, Dr. Kirk, and Kevin

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, CEO
Let'sTango
Fairfax, VA

Personal connection: Mr. Agarwal is a transplant recipient passionate about kidney health, and actively serves the NKF. Serving the National Capital Area as Chair of the Board.

Hubert L. Allen

Executive Vice President,
General Counsel & Secretary
Abbott
Chicago, IL

Personal connection: Mr. Allen suffered from acute kidney injury and was treated with dialysis. His kidneys regained function while he developed a passion for helping others.

Anne Barr

Managing Partner
NKF, Board Chair
Counterpoint Advisors LLC
San Francisco Bay Area, CA

Personal connection: Her engagement with NKF began as part of her passion for kidney transplantation when a close friend became a kidney donor. Additionally, her Mother has been diagnosed with kidney disease.

Jaime Herrera Beutler

Principal, Columbia Strategies LLC
Member of Congress, 2011-2023
Clark County, WA

Personal connection: Mrs. Herrera Beutler's daughter survived a rare condition that caused her kidneys to fail to develop in utero.

Kirk Campbell, MD

NKF President
Professor of Medicine, Nephrology
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, NY

Personal connection: Dr. Campbell spent years working in the rare kidney disease space and understands the challenges faced by patients, having seen close friends affected by kidney disease.

Monica Davy

VP, Chief Culture, Diversity, and
Impact Officer
Vizient, Inc.
Irving, Texas

Personal connection: Ms. Davy is a living kidney donor to her son, born at 29 weeks and diagnosed with Prune-Belly syndrome and kidney failure.

Valerie Dixon

Managing Director
Morgan Stanley
Investment Banking Division
New York, NY

Personal connection: Ms. Dixon understands that the devastating effect of kidney disease through the lens of her clients who are medical device entrepreneurs developing new, exciting innovations for the diagnosis and treatment of all kinds of chronic diseases, including kidney disease.

Michele Estrella, MD, MHS

President-Elect
Professor of Medicine
University of California
Renal Section Chief
VA Health Care System
San Francisco, CA

Personal connection:

Her very first research grant was from the NKF of Maryland. She credits that investment as instrumental in building the research skills that still serve her today.

Renée Gosline

Senior Lecturer & Research
Scientist, Marketing
MIT Sloan School of Management
Cambridge, MA

Personal connection: Dr. Gosline was diagnosed suddenly with kidney disease as a young academic, despite having no family history.

Darrius Jones

Chief Digital Design & Innovation Officer
USAA
San Antonio, TX

Personal connection: He and members of his family have experienced both diabetes and kidney disease. Joining the National Kidney Foundation was a cause he felt he had to get behind.

Giselle Guerra, MD

Board Member

Holly Kramer, MD, MPH

Loyola University Chicago and
Loyola Medicine
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.

Tracy B. McKibben

Founder
MAC Energy Advisors, LLC
New York, NY

Personal connection: Ms. McKibben donated a kidney to her mother, who was on dialysis for several years.

Anne Motsenbocker

Dallas, TX

Personal connection: As a result of her experience as a living kidney donor, she is committed to helping build awareness regarding the importance of living organ donation and the need for more educational awareness regarding kidney disease and its impact on millions of Americans.

Paul M. Palevsky, MD

Professor of Medicine, Critical Care
Medicine, and Clinical & Translational
Science, University of Pittsburgh
School of Medicine
Deputy National Program Executive
Director, VHA Kidney Program
Pittsburgh, PA

Personal connection: Dr. Palevsky has led multiple clinical trials focused on the treatment of acute kidney injury and chronic kidney disease and has dedicated his career to improving the care of individuals with kidney disease.

Art P. Pasquarella, CRE

NKF Chancellor,
Vice Chairman, Equus Capital
Partners, Ltd.
Philadelphia, PA

Personal connection: He is a living donor, and two of his immediate family members have received kidney transplants.

Lynn Pina

Chief Marketing Officer
GeoBlue
King of Prussia, PA

Personal connection: Several of Ms. Pina's close family friends have been affected by chronic kidney disease.

Sylvia E. Rosas, MD, MSCE

Director, Latino Kidney Clinic
Associate Professor, Harvard Medical School
Joslin Diabetes Center, Inc.
Boston, MA

Personal connection: She has dedicated her career to the care, the cause, and support of kidney patients.

Alison Steiber, PhD, RDN

Chief Science Officer
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
Cleveland, OH

Personal connection: Dr. Steiber is passionate about the impact that nutrition can have on the health outcomes of patients with kidney disease, and she's eager to share her decades of expertise in renal nutrition by working with the NKF board and all those affected by kidney disease.

Sumeska Thavarajah, MD

Assistant Professor of Medicine
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Baltimore, MD

Personal connection: She has been committed to education and dedicated to bringing community awareness of kidney disease through her work with the National Kidney Foundation Serving Maryland and Delaware.

Anthony Tuggle

President of Customer Operations
Afiniti, Inc.
Washington, DC

Personal connection: A 20-year kidney transplant recipient, Mr. Tuggle is committed to working with NKF towards kidney disease prevention efforts.

Bradley A. Warady, MD

Professor, Department of Pediatrics,
University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine;
Director, Division of Nephrology & Director,
Dialysis & Kidney Transplantation at
Children's Mercy Kansas City
Kansas City, MO

Personal connection: Dr. Warady's work with children has inspired him to advocate for children affected by kidney disease. He helped initiate a successful collaboration between the National Kidney Foundation, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology

John Wigneswaran, MD

Chief Clinical Officer
Optum RX/United Health Group
Boston, MA

Personal connection: He was drawn to nephrology because of the unique needs of this patient population, many in underserved communities, and the opportunity to make a meaningful impact. These patients, in particular, need an advocate, and he wanted to be that individual in their lives.

NATIONAL STAFF**Kevin Longino**

Chief Executive Officer

Petros A. Gregoriou, CPA

Chief Financial Officer

Joanne Rencher

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

Jesse Roach, MD

Senior Vice President
Government Relations

Jerry Tillery

Senior Vice President
of Field Development and
Community Impact

Elizabeth Talbot-Montgomery

National Vice President
Learning Strategies and
Primary Care Programs

Suzan Barnett

Vice President,
Senior People Business
Partner

Stephanie Cogan

Vice President,
Corporate Relations

Nick Duquette

Vice President
Information Technology

James Echikson

Vice President
Corporate Development

Alyssa Franklin Murray

Vice President
Resource Development

Miriam Godwin

Vice President,
Health Policy and
Clinical Outcomes

Brenita Brooks

Regional Vice President
Southeast and Midwest

Andrew Gordon, CPA

Vice President
Finance and Controller

Abby Aiello

Vice President
Field Corporate Development

Rasitha Herath

Vice President
Digital Customer Experience

Katarina E. Madej

Vice President
Digital Marketing

Paul McGee

Vice President
Marketing and
Communications/
Public Affairs

KIDNEY DISEASE

AT-A-GLANCE

30% OF ALL PATIENTS

with kidney failure (ESKD) are Black/African American, even though this group is 13% of the U.S. population



Black/African American people

4X
MORE LIKELY

to have ESKD than White persons

Hispanic/Latino people

2X
MORE LIKELY

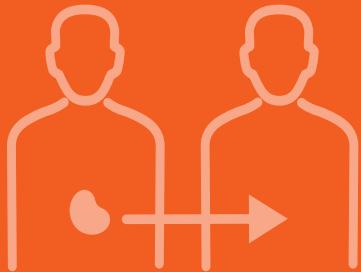
to have ESKD

Sources: USRDS, CDC

ABOUT 90,000 PEOPLE

are on the waitlist for a kidney donation.

Sources: HHS/OPTN



27K+ PEOPLE

received a kidney
transplant in 2024

9,266 DONATED KIDNEYS WERE DISCARDED IN 2024.



More than a quarter of all kidneys (living and nonliving donors) procured for transplant are discarded and not used.



Source: Clinical Transplantation. 2019 Jan;33(1):e13419.

12 PEOPLE die each day while waiting for a kidney transplant

Sources: HHS/OPTN

NKF STATS

AT-A-GLANCE

171 LEGISLATIVE MEETINGS

with 112 advocates from 35 states at the 2025
Kidney Patient Summit

25,000+ ADVOCATE MESSAGES

delivered to State and Federal
lawmakers in support of our
Voices for Kidney Health agenda



200K+ PATIENT LIVES

touched by our professional education
on home dialysis quality improvement
initiatives and standardized clinician
education programs

4,500 NKF Professional Members

NKF SPRING CLINICAL MEETINGS

- 3,300 registrants
- 519 abstracts
- 74 exhibitors

\$59.5 MILLION

raised for NKF efforts

6 BILLION

media impressions of NKF content

5.33 MILLION

Facebook impressions of NKF content

1.45 MILLION

Twitter impressions of NKF content

KIDNEY.ORG IN FY25

20

MILLION

users on kidney.org

TOP 3 PAGES:

- 10 Signs You May Have Kidney Disease
- GFR Calculator Tool
- Estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate Page

70

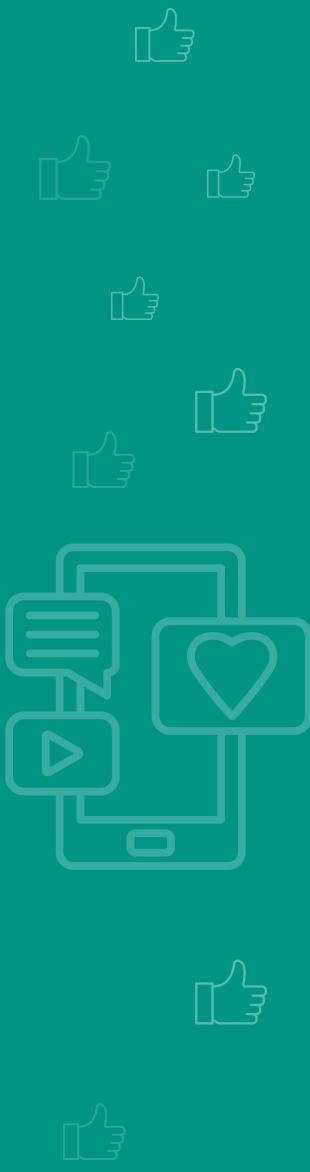
MILLION

page views on kidney.org

31.8

MILLION

unique page views on kidney.org



301,000
FACEBOOK
followers



46,700
X
followers
(formerly Twitter)



56,200
INSTAGRAM
followers



43,400
YOUTUBE
subscribers



50,900
LINKEDIN
subscribers



3,400
TIKTOK
followers



850
BLUESKY
followers

INNOVATION & RESEARCH



Accelerating Solutions. Advancing Equity. Strengthening the Science of Kidney Care.

Innovation has always played a defining role in the National Kidney Foundation's mission. From helping establish national standards of care to elevating patient voices in scientific decision-making, NKF's work has consistently bridged research, real-world practice, and patient needs. In FY 2024-25, that leadership continued with renewed urgency and focus. Guided by donor support, clinical expertise, and strong collaborations across the kidney community, NKF advanced a portfolio of initiatives designed to improve detection, expand access, and move promising ideas toward meaningful patient impact.

Catalyzing Breakthroughs Through the NKF Innovation Fund

At the heart of NKF's innovation strategy is the NKF Innovation Fund, created to identify and accelerate early-stage solutions capable of transforming kidney care. Rather than waiting for innovations to reach maturity, the Fund invests early—helping emerging ideas gain traction, attract partners, and move closer to benefitting patients.

During the fiscal year, the Innovation Fund supported companies working across critical areas of need, including kidney preservation and novel therapeutic approaches. Portfolio companies such as Northernmost™, ImmunoFree, and Revalia Bio advanced technologies aimed at improving outcomes for patients facing kidney failure and transplantation.

One Innovation Fund-supported company, 34Lives, went on to secure a major Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)

award, demonstrating how strategic philanthropic investment can help promising innovations reach national recognition and scale. This milestone reflects a central principle of the Fund: donor dollars can accelerate solutions that otherwise may not have had the resources to advance.

These investments are not speculative—they are strategically aligned with NKF's mission, focused on filling gaps in kidney care, and designed to move scientific discovery toward tangible patient benefits.

Elevating Patient Voices in Emerging Transplant Science

In December 2024, NKF released the Voice of the Patient report following our Externally Led Patient-Focused Drug Development (EL-PFDD) Meeting on Kidney Xenotransplantation. This first-of-its-kind effort brought patients and care partners together with federal regulators, researchers, and clinical experts to share their hopes, questions, and concerns about this experimental approach to addressing organ shortages.

The resulting report provides the FDA, researchers, and other stakeholders with direct insights into how patients weigh risk, what outcomes matter most to them, and what support they would need if clinical trials move forward. By ensuring patients are heard early — before large-scale trials begin — NKF is helping shape a future research landscape grounded in transparency, ethics, and informed choice.

Driving Equity Through Evidence-Based Leadership

Scientific progress matters most when it meaningfully improves people's lives. This year, NKF's research and innovation work continued to support progress toward fairer, more equitable kidney care. Working alongside leading clinical and scientific partners, NKF advanced national conversations around how kidney function is measured, when patients are referred for specialist care, and how data tools can illuminate inequities in the system. These efforts help ensure that innovations reach the people who need them most—especially communities historically affected by kidney disease at higher rates. Equity is now fully embedded in NKF's research agenda. It shapes the questions being asked, the programs being funded, and the way tools and guidelines are developed and shared.

Research Publications Informing Clinical Practice

Publishing rigorous, accessible research is central to NKF's role as a convener of scientific knowledge. In FY 2024–25, several key publications advanced understanding across the kidney-care continuum.

The KDOQI US Commentary on the KDIGO 2024 Clinical Practice Guideline for the Evaluation and Management of CKD, published in the American Journal of Kidney Diseases (AJKD), provided clinicians with practical interpretation and context for evolving standards of care. As treatments for CKD continue to expand, this guidance helps providers navigate complex decisions and apply evidence in a patient-centered way.

NKF also partnered with the Project Santa Fe Foundation on a study published in *BMC Nephrology*, examining how clinical laboratories can improve CKD detection and care coordination. By highlighting opportunities within existing health-system infrastructure, the paper offered actionable strategies for identifying kidney disease earlier—before complications progress.

Together, these publications demonstrate NKF's continued role as a trusted voice translating research into meaningful clinical insights.

Turning Data Into Tools That Improve Care

To meaningfully improve kidney care, data must be collected and translated into resources that clinicians, health systems, and policymakers can use. During FY 2024–25, NKF strengthened two of its most widely utilized data-based initiatives.

Combined, these resources empower clinicians and health leaders with the insight needed to change outcomes at scale.

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS



1950
The first meeting of the Committee for Nephrosis Research (later NKF) is held, marking the foundation of NKF.



1972
The Medicare End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) benefit is passed, ensuring nearly all U.S. residents with kidney failure have access to treatment, led by NKF advocacy.



2005
The first meeting of the Committee for Nephrosis Research (later NKF) is held, marking the foundation of NKF.



2014
Dialysis trends improve: fewer people are starting dialysis for the first time in 35 years, and dialysis patients are living longer, influenced by NKF initiatives.



2019
NKF plays a major role in shaping the White House's Advancing American Kidney Health (AAKH) initiative, which transforms kidney care in the U.S.



2023
The U.S. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) Act passes, improving the national transplant system with NKF's support.

1964

The National Kidney Disease Foundation changes its name to the National Kidney Foundation (NKF), reflecting its expanded mission to include education, patient services, and advocacy.



1999

NKF helps pass the Organ Donor Leave Act, providing paid leave to federal civil servants who serve as living organ donors.



2011

NKF launches the PEERs® patient mentoring program, later expanded to include living kidney donors and those considering donation.



2016

NKF collaborates with the National Health Council to create guidelines for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on patient input into drug development, leading to the Voice of the Patient: Externally Led Patient-Focused Drug Development Meetings (VOP EL-PFDD)



2021

NKF and ASN announce a new race-free calculation for estimating eGFR, improving equity in kidney care.

PATIENT &

COMMUNITY IMPACT



Meeting People Where They Are. Supporting Them Every Step of the Way.

Behind every statistic in kidney care is a person — a parent choosing between work and dialysis, a young adult navigating transplant decisions, or a caregiver managing medicine, appointments, and worry. For 75 years, the National Kidney Foundation has stood alongside patients and families at every stage of their journey. FY 2024–25 continued that commitment, with programs designed not only to educate and empower, but to listen, accompany with guide, and advocate alongside those most affected by kidney disease.

Our community programs reached hundreds of thousands of people nationwide this year, extending support into clinics, communities, faith centers, and homes. We focused especially on removing barriers to information, language, transportation, finances, and emotional support — because improving kidney health means more than medical care alone.

Transplants for All: Turning Possibility into Reality

For too many people, the path to transplant can feel overwhelming. Complex paperwork, insurance barriers, waitlists, testing, and logistics often fall hardest on families already navigating illness. Through **Transplants for All (T4A)**, NKF helps people understand their options, make informed choices, and navigate a complicated system with confidence.

In FY 2024–25:

- More than **20,000** people received education, guidance, and support navigating health systems
- NKF directly supported **54** living kidney donations
- New or strengthened **living-donor protections** extended to **9.5 million** residents across three states

T4A makes a tangible difference: more people progressing through evaluation, more families exploring living donation, and more patients moving closer to transplant. Each success represents a life regained — more time with family, more independence, and a future with fewer health complications.

Expanding Support Through Peer Mentorship

Living with kidney disease can be isolating — especially after diagnosis, during dialysis transitions, or while preparing for transplant. NKF's PEERs program connects patients and caregivers with trained volunteer mentors who have walked similar paths and can provide real-world guidance, reassurance, and hope.

This year, the program further expanded in two important ways:

- **Mentorship for care partners**, recognizing the emotional and logistical realities faced by spouses, adult children, and loved ones
- Launch of **PEERs en Español**, providing culturally relevant, Spanish-language support for patients and potential donors whose first language is not English

These expansions reflect a central truth: people heal better when they feel seen, heard, and supported by others who understand their experiences.

Reaching Hispanic/Latino Communities with Kidney Health Education

Hispanic/Latino communities face higher risk for kidney disease — but often have less access to early detection and culturally appropriate information. To help close this gap, NKF launched a bilingual awareness effort in partnership with trusted Hispanic celebrities, influencers, and community voices.

The campaign used relatable storytelling, accessible messages, and Spanish-language resources to increase awareness about prevention, screening, and transplantation. By meeting people where they already connect — online, in neighborhoods, and in community gatherings — NKF helped more families recognize risk factors, seek testing, and engage earlier with kidney care.

This initiative reflects NKF's commitment to reaching communities historically underserved by the health-care system, ensuring kidney-health education is available to all — not just to those with easy access to specialists.

Supporting Children and Families at Risk

Kidney disease in children presents unique challenges — for families, schools, and healthcare teams. In the Carolinas, NKF continued its pediatric kidney disease efforts, focusing on early identification and family engagement for children at risk for kidney complications.

Through partnerships with pediatric healthcare providers and community organizations, the program helps families access education, screenings, and support resources earlier — reducing the likelihood of crisis-driven care later. Parents gain tools to monitor risk factors, ask informed questions, and advocate for their children's needs — essential steps toward healthier long-term outcomes.

Building Awareness Through Community Events

NKF's presence in communities across the country extends far beyond clinics and conference rooms. Each year, local teams create opportunities to raise awareness, celebrate donors and volunteers, and bring kidney issues into the public conversation in meaningful ways.

Highlights from FY 2024–25 included:

- the **NBA Wizards Organ Donation Awareness Tournament**, engaged sports fans and young audiences

- the **10th Annual Congressional Awards Reception**, honored champions of kidney health
- the **Greater New York CKD Summit**, brought together patients, clinicians, and community leaders to address inequities in kidney disease care

These events do more than inform — they build networks, inspire action, and strengthen community trust in NKF as a partner focused on solutions.

Listening to Patients — and Adapting Programs Accordingly

A defining feature of NKF's approach is that patients are not just constituents — they are collaborators. We consistently listen to patient feedback through mentoring programs, surveys, support calls, and advisory groups, using what we learn to improve and expand our services.

This perspective helped shape everything from PEERs en Español, to transplant navigation tools, to how we tailor educational materials for different life circumstances. By grounding programs in lived experiences, NKF ensures that support is relevant, compassionate, and truly helpful.

A Community Built on Partnerships

Our impact is made possible through partnerships: with hospitals and clinics that refer patients to programs, with volunteers who share their stories, and with donors whose generosity keeps these services strong.

Each program featured in this chapter represents a simple promise — **no one should face kidney disease alone**. Whether someone is newly diagnosed, waiting for transplant, caring for a loved one, or adjusting after surgery, NKF is there to offer guidance, encouragement, and resources.

As we look ahead, NKF will continue to broaden outreach, deepen cultural relevance, and expand programs that address the full realities of living with kidney disease — not only the medical ones.



ADVOCACY & POLICY

ACHIEVEMENTS



Changing Systems So Patients Don't Have to Fight Alone.

When kidney disease intersects with insurance rules, federal policy, and health-system bureaucracy, the burdens on patients can feel overwhelming. That is why the National Kidney Foundation works not only at bedsides and in communities, but also in statehouses, federal agencies, and Congress — ensuring the voices of kidney patients shape decisions that affect their care.

In FY 2024-25, NKF advanced a strategic advocacy agenda focused on fairness, earlier detection, transplant access, and financial protections for living donors and people living with kidney disease. Working alongside patients, clinicians, and national partners, NKF helped influence policies designed to make the entire kidney-care journey more humane, more equitable, and easier to navigate.

Federal Progress Toward More Equitable Transplant Access

One of the most significant national developments of the year was the continued momentum to modernize how transplant systems function. NKF provided guidance and public comment as the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) introduced the IOTA Model, a policy approach intended to expand access to transplantation and improve transparency in how organs are matched and utilized.

At the same time, federal agencies finalized reforms to remove race from the **Kidney Donor Profile Index (KDPI)** — an important change that helps ensure allocation decisions are based on medical science, not race-based assumptions. These efforts align with years of NKF leadership emphasizing accuracy, fairness, and equity in kidney-function assessment and transplantation pathways.

While policy work often unfolds quietly, the impact is far-reaching: more patients receiving accurate evaluations, clearer standards for transplant programs, and a stronger national commitment to equitable care.

Protecting and Supporting Living Organ Donors

Living donors make transplants possible — yet historically, many have faced financial risks, job insecurity, and logistical barriers simply for choosing to save someone else's life. NKF has long worked to change that reality.

During FY 2024-25, NKF supported and helped advance national conversations that resulted in **stronger federal protections and supports for living donors**, including insurance coverage improvements and administrative changes designed to reduce financial hardship. These changes help ensure that people who want to donate can do so without jeopardizing their financial stability, employment, or access to care.

This work is rooted in a simple principle: generosity should never come with penalties.

Legislative Momentum: LDPA and the HOLD Act

Across Capitol Hill, NKF continued building bipartisan support for legislation that addresses core challenges in kidney care.

The **Living Donor Protection Act (LDPA)** (H.R. 4583) gained additional momentum, reflecting a growing recognition that donors deserve comprehensive safeguards. By preventing discrimination in insurance and protecting employment rights, the bill would remove barriers that prevent potential donors from stepping forward. NKF worked closely with advocates and lawmakers to keep the bill visible and moving.

Meanwhile, the **Honor Our Living Donors (HOLD) Act** (H.R. 6020) passed the U.S. House of Representatives, marking a significant step toward improving organ utilization and reducing waste in the transplant system. By increasing accountability and efficiency, the legislation aims to help ensure more viable organs reach patients who desperately need them.

Every legislative milestone is powered by patient advocates — individuals who testify, call congressional offices, share deeply personal stories, and remind policymakers that these issues are not abstract policy debates, but matters of life and survival.

Ensuring Kidney Disease Remains a National Health Priority

Beyond legislative bills, NKF worked to position chronic kidney disease as a central issue within broader federal health strategies. Through comments, meetings, and coalition engagement, NKF consistently emphasized prevention, early detection, and coordinated care — urging federal agencies to address kidney disease alongside diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and other chronic conditions.

This sustained advocacy has helped ensure that kidney health remains visible within national prevention frameworks, research priorities, and funders — strengthening the foundation for long-term progress.

Expanding Access Through Telehealth, Medication Coverage, and Caregiver Support

Policy progress this year extended beyond transplantation to everyday access to care. Federal actions supported by NKF helped expand or secure coverage for:

- **immunosuppressive medications**, which are essential for transplant survival
- **telehealth services**, reducing travel burdens and increasing continuity of care
- **caregiver training and support**, recognizing the critical role families play in managing kidney disease

These changes directly reduce stress, cost, and logistical strain on patients — allowing them to focus more energy on staying healthy and managing their conditions.

Bringing Services Directly to Communities

Advocacy is not limited to policy statements and legislative meetings. It also means **showing up where needs are greatest**.

During FY 2024–25, NKF partnered with community leaders at major national events — including **free kidney disease testing at the Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Conference**. These efforts bring detection tools and educational resources directly to communities disproportionately affected by kidney disease, while also demonstrating to policymakers the real-world stakes of their decisions.

By pairing grassroots engagement with federal advocacy, NKF builds both awareness and trust — strengthening the case for continued policy reform.

Patients at the Center of Every Policy Conversation

A hallmark of NKF's approach is ensuring that policy decisions reflect the lived experiences of patients. People living with kidney disease participated in meetings, provided testimony, served on advisory groups, and helped shape NKF's advocacy priorities. Their voices guide how laws are written, how regulations are implemented, and how federal programs measure success.

When patients explain the realities of navigating dialysis schedules, medication costs, job insecurity, or transplant wait times, the conversation shifts — from abstract policy language to human impact. That is where meaningful change begins.

A Foundation for Future Wins

Policy wins rarely happen overnight. They require persistence, expertise, and partnerships across political lines. FY 2024–25 built on years of groundwork and created momentum for future reforms that can further improve outcomes, access, and fairness.

Looking ahead, NKF will continue working to:

- strengthen transplant access and accountability

- expand financial protections for patients and donors
- promote early detection and preventive care
- advance equitable policies across all stages of kidney disease

For the millions of Americans living with or at risk for kidney disease, these changes matter — not only in moments of crisis, but in everyday life.



PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION & CLINICAL LEADERSHIP

NATIONAL KIDNEY FOUNDATION
SCM25
SPRING CLINICAL MEETINGS

SAVE THE DATE
APRIL 9–13, 2025

BOSTON



Equipping Clinicians. Elevating Standards. Improving Care at the Front Lines.

Every day, nurses, primary care providers, nephrologists, dietitians, social workers, pharmacists, and transplant professionals make decisions that shape the lives of people with kidney disease. The National Kidney Foundation has long believed that improving kidney health means supporting the professionals who deliver care — not only with cutting-edge science, but with tools, training, and collaboration that translate research into real-world impact.

In FY 2024–25, NKF expanded its leadership as a trusted source for education, professional community, and guidance for clinicians nationwide. Through conferences, digital learning platforms, mentorship initiatives, and guideline development, NKF connected tens of thousands of health professionals with practical, evidence-based knowledge designed to improve early detection, streamline care pathways, and strengthen patient outcomes.

Spring Clinical Meetings: A Hub for Innovation and Collaboration

The **NKF Spring Clinical Meetings (NKF-SCM)** continued to serve as one of the premier gatherings in kidney care — a place where practitioners exchange experience, debate emerging evidence, and share solutions that move the field forward. This year's meetings saw strong participation across disciplines, reflecting NKF's commitment to a team-based approach.

SCM featured:

- abstracts highlighting new research and quality-improvement projects,
- late-breaking presentations that brought the latest findings directly to attendees, and
- sessions focused on real-world implementation — from diagnostic strategies and therapeutics to patient communication and care coordination.

Participants left not only with new knowledge, but with renewed connection to a national community working toward the same goal: earlier detection, more equitable access, and better long-term outcomes for people living with kidney disease.

Learning That Reaches Clinicians Wherever They Practice

Healthcare professionals increasingly balance heavy workloads, complex technology systems, and rapidly evolving treatment guidelines. To meet those realities, NKF delivers learning in formats that fit modern professional lives.

This year, NKF's education portfolio included:

- **live and on-demand webinars** on clinical topics across the CKD spectrum,
- **online learning modules** offering structured, CME-eligible coursework,
- the **Kidney Learning Center**, providing curated tracks for different disciplines,
- **podcast programming** featuring conversations with experts and practitioners, and
- **Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes)-style learning communities**, supporting case-based collaboration and peer learning.

Collectively, these offerings reached tens of thousands of clinicians across the country — from large academic centers to community practices and rural clinics. By removing barriers to continuing education and offering content that is practical, accessible, and evidence-based, NKF helps providers integrate best practices into everyday care.

KDOQI: Setting Standards and Advancing Quality

For decades, the **Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative (KDOQI®)** has helped anchor clinical care in clear, evidence-driven guidance. In FY 2024–25, NKF continued supporting active KDOQI workgroups focused on areas such as vascular access and dialysis care — topics that directly affect safety, complication rates, and patient quality of life.

These workgroups draw on multidisciplinary expertise and patient perspectives, ensuring that evolving recommendations reflect both scientific rigor and lived experience. As new therapies and technologies emerge, KDOQI plays a critical role in helping clinicians navigate complexity, weigh benefits and risks, and incorporate innovations responsibly.

Beyond guideline development, NKF also fosters clinical leadership by convening discussions around quality improvement, measurement, and implementation — so that standards do not simply exist on paper, but are put into practice in ways that serve patients effectively.

From Data to Decision-Making: Tools Clinicians Rely On

Education is most powerful when paired with actionable tools. Throughout the fiscal year, NKF strengthened resources that help clinicians recognize risk earlier and coordinate care more effectively.

The **CKD Spotlight Dashboard** provided timely national and state-level data-driven perspectives on kidney disease trends, risk profiles, and care gaps. Clinicians and health-system leaders used this resource to understand local challenges, prioritize outreach efforts, and plan interventions grounded in data.

Meanwhile, the updated **CKD Change Package** offered practical, step-by-step approaches for improving early detection, integrating new

therapies, and delivering more equitable care. Built in partnership with providers, this toolkit focuses on what works in real clinical environments — streamlining processes, reducing missed opportunities, and supporting smoother care transitions.

Together, these resources help move knowledge from conferences and journals into daily clinical decision-making, where it can change lives.

Cultivating the Next Generation of Kidney Health Leaders

Sustainable progress depends on a strong and inspired clinical workforce. NKF invested this year in mentorship and professional development programs that encouraged more clinicians to build careers in nephrology and kidney-related fields.

A notable example was the continued momentum of **NephSIM Nephrons**, a virtual mentorship program designed to engage trainees and early-career clinicians. Published outcomes demonstrated positive educational impact, reinforcing the value of structured mentorship and exposure to real-world case learning.

By creating spaces where learners can ask questions, connect with mentors, and envision their role in the future of kidney care, NKF helps ensure that patients will continue to benefit from skilled, compassionate specialists in the years ahead.

Clinicians and Patients as Partners in Care

Across all of NKF's educational initiatives, one principle remains constant: the belief that **patients and clinicians are partners**. Educational content consistently highlights communication skills, shared decision-making, cultural competence, and understanding the social realities that shape health outcomes.

This approach recognizes that effective kidney care requires more than medical accuracy — it demands empathy, trust, and collaboration. When clinicians are equipped not only with information, but with insight into patient experiences, care becomes safer, more person-centered, and more sustainable.

A National Network Strengthening Care Locally

NKF's role as a convener brought together health systems, academic institutions, professional societies, and patient organizations. These partnerships amplify reach, reduce duplication of effort, and create unified messages around prevention, early referral, and best practices.

Whether through local workshops, national conferences, or digital collaboration, NKF serves as the connective tissue that links innovation to implementation — ensuring that promising ideas do not remain isolated in research, but reach exam rooms, dialysis units, and transplant centers nationwide.

Preparing for the Future of Kidney Care

As treatments evolve and new models of care emerge, the need for credible, accessible education will only grow. NKF is positioned to continue leading — expanding digital offerings, deepening mentorship opportunities, and supporting clinicians as they navigate rapid change.

The foundation of this work is clear: when clinicians have the tools, training, and community they need, patients receive better care. Earlier detection improves. Complications decrease. More people move toward transplant and healthier lives.

Through ongoing investment in professional education and clinical leadership, NKF is helping shape a future in which every healthcare professional who encounters kidney disease is prepared — confident, informed, and capable of delivering the best care possible.



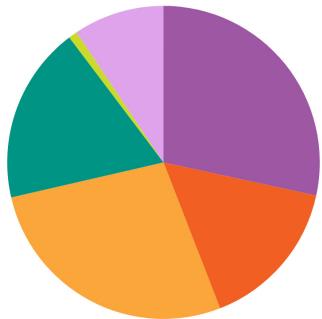
OUR FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



COMBINED FINANCIALS FOR NKF AND AFFILIATES — FY25*

All figures are in thousands.

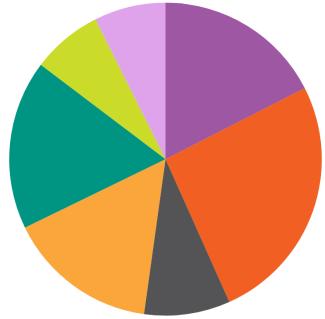
PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE



- **28.4%** Contributions \$21,402
- **15.7%** Net Special Events \$11,816
- **27.3%** Program Service Fees \$20,631
- **18.3%** Government Grants \$13,816
- **0.9%** Membership Dues \$712
- **9.4%** Other Income \$7,060

Total Income \$ 75,437 (100%)

EXPENSES



- **17.5%** Patient Services \$5,981
- **25.8%** Professional Education \$17,116
- **8.9%** Public Health Education \$ 5,309
- **15.6%** Community Services \$10,031
- **17.5%** Research \$4,428
- **7.3%** Management and General \$3,858
- **7.4%** Fundraising \$3,369

Total Expenses \$74,184 (100%)

Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$9,292
Investments	\$51,110
Receivables	\$6,877
Inventories of Educational and Campaign Material	\$104
Prepaid Expenses	\$2,821
Property, Plant & Equipment (net)	\$2,034
Leaser Assets	\$8,220
Other Assets.....	\$5,363
Total Assets	\$85,822

Liabilities and Net Assets

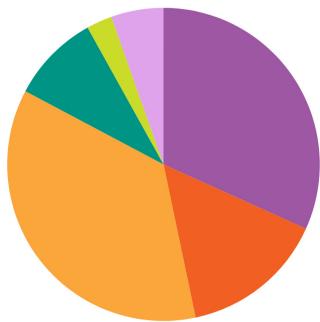
Accounts Payable And Accrued Expenses	\$5,829
Lease Liability.....	\$9,593
Deferred Income	\$9,890
Other Liabilities.....	\$280
Total Liabilities	\$25,592
Net Assets	
Without Donor Restrictions	\$ 38,873
With Donor Restrictions	\$21,357
Total Net Assets	\$60,229
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	
\$85,822	

* Does not include NKF of Hawaii

AUDITED FINANCIALS FOR NKF WITHOUT AFFILIATES – FY25

All figures are in thousands.

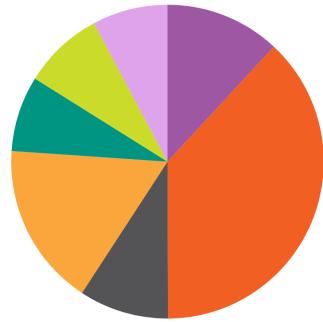
PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE



- **34.6%** Contributions/Other Income \$ 17,507
- **16.3%** Net Special Events \$8,212
- **39.3%** Program Service Fees \$19,885
- **10%** Government Grants \$518
- **2.9%** Net Investment Income \$1,433
- **5.9%** Professional Memberships & Subscriptions \$3,005

Total Income 50,560 (100%)

EXPENSES



- **11.3%** Patient Services \$5,711
- **36.1%** Professional Education \$18,266
- **8.8%** Public Health Education \$4,454
- **16%** Community Services \$10,902
- **7.4%** Research \$3,746
- **7.9%** Management and General \$3,975
- **7.4%** Fundraising \$3,759

Total Expenses \$50,565 (100%)

Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$5,660
Investments	\$28,948
Receivables	\$3,886
Inventories of Educational and Campaign Material	\$104
Leased Assets	\$7,422
Prepaid Expenses	\$4,999
Property, Plant & Equipment (net)	\$489
Other Assets	\$6,383
Total Assets	\$51,508

Liabilities and Net Assets

Accounts Payable And Accrued Expenses	\$4,479
Lease Liability.....	\$9,111
Deferred Income	\$8,366
Other Liabilities.....	\$138
Total Liabilities	\$22,094
Net Assets	
Without Donor Restrictions	\$19,140
With Donor Restrictions	\$10,274
Total Net Assets	\$58,977
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	
\$51,508	

View the complete [National Kidney Foundation FY25 financials](#)

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