

Team Kidney News

Whether it's a local 5k, a group bike ride, or a half-marathon, individuals that participate in Team Kidney accomplish incredible things while helping support NKF. Recently, Team Kidney members took part in two major NY endurance events, and we could not be more impressed with their work. The determination and tenacity with which they pursued physical achievement as well as making a positive impact on the NKF's mission, was inspiring.



On Friday, April 27th, the National Kidney Foundation hosted delegates from the United Arab Emirates, including General Mohammed Hilal Al Kaabi and a host of doctors. This meeting was in support of the UAE Healthy Kidney 10k and the 14 year partnership between the UAE and the National Kidney Foundation. It was a real pleasure to discuss our shared commitment to kidney health worldwide!



On April 29th, more than 7,500 runners took part in the race itself. We cannot thank our runners enough. 43 members of Team Kidney participated in the 10k, successfully fundraising over \$13,000 to support NKF.

Here are some of their incredible stories:

Chris Melz – Chris donated his kidney to his childhood best friend, Will, in 2008. Since then Chris went back to school to be a registered nurse and works with LiveON New York to raise awareness about kidney transplants. We featured him a video found [here](#).

Rachel Samuel – Rachel ran in honor of her Aunt Janet who received her third kidney transplant less than a year ago. This transplant was part of an **18- person donation chain**. Janet is doing well now and living her life to the fullest.

Zonia Batres – Zonia was diagnosed with Lupus at age 11 which led to kidney failure and dialysis. In March of 2012, Zonia received a life-saving kidney transplant from her brother and will be celebrating her 6th transplant anniversary this year.

Cara Friedman – Cara's family has been deeply affected by kidney disease. Three years ago, Cara lost her father to kidney failure and heart disease. So many kidney health issues have a huge impact on the heart that many kidney patients pass away from heart complications as a result.

Three years before that, Cara's paternal aunt passed away after a 40-year battle with kidney disease. And unfortunately, last year her uncle also lost his life to kidney disease. Looking for a way to help fight CKD, she joined Team Kidney to make a real difference.

Mark Fromm – Mark ran in honor of his mother-in-law who received a transplant from her daughter this past December. Both are doing great!



We would also like to celebrate the 13 cyclists who raised a record setting \$25,000, as part of the 5 Boro Bike Tour that took place on May 6th. \$10,000 of that total came from the mother and son duo, Team Paul. The event takes place the first Sunday of May and draws 30,000 cyclists from all over as they ride through the streets of NYC completely free of traffic. National Board Chairman, Art Pasquarella, also rode with his daughter, Jessica and son-in-law Kevin. Making this year's 5 Boro Bike Tour a true family affair.

For more information, and ways to get involved with Team Kidney, [Click Here](#).