ALLIANCE FOR PAIRED KIDNEY DONATION

MAY 2020 APKD NEWS—AT-A-GLANCE

- CORONA BRINGS TRANSPLANTS TO A HALT The kidney transplant community has been severely impacted by the Coronavirus Pandemic. It has been a very challenging and difficult time for transplant patients. Because immunosuppressed individuals are especially vulnerable to the virus, living donor transplants have all but ceased across the country. Our thoughts and prayers are with the patients and their loved ones. We hope to begin living donor transplants by June. The APKD continues to work behind the scenes to develop new programs such as the Donor Safety net and Donor Insurance. We are also putting the final touches on our KidneyMatch 2.7 software, which should be ready by early June.

- TRANSPLANT PROFESSIONALS STAND IN THE GAP In America, we’re down 89% in living kidney donation. But our transplant professionals have stepped up and are providing critical care for those with COVID in the ICU. THANK YOU for all you do! You are heroes!

CENTER STAGE SUSAN REES

Vulnerable members of our society have been hit hard by the Coronavirus—even those who do not become ill. Many families have been struggling to find their next meal. Our Transplant Administrator, Susan Rees teamed up with friends at the United Way of Greater Toledo, YMCA of Greater Toledo, and Black and White Transportation of Northwest Ohio to help prepare and distribute food boxes to grandparents and relatives raising children and older adults living on limited incomes. Sue is our right hand, left hand, and the backbone here at APKD. She has a heart for others, and a passion for compassion. Although paired donation has come to a standstill in recent weeks, Sue is always looking for a way to make someone’s day a little brighter. When the United Way asked for help, Sue mobilized a team, put on a mask, and got straight to work helping deliver food to families in need. “United, we are strong.”

In need of coordinator help? The APKD now offers assistance with uploading your compatible and incompatible pairs into the APKD database. Please contact Susan Rees at susan.rees@paireddonation.org for more information.

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Celebrating 10 YEARS

Shalisa Sanders (far left) stands next to her mother Rosa and Deb Shearer, Rosa’s kidney donor. Shalisa donated her kidney as part of this donation chain on behalf of her mother in 2010.

This month Sherry Reischel celebrated her 10-year anniversary of becoming an altruistic donor and starting a chain of ELEVEN people!