

AMESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

Resiliency, Reconnection and Reimagination

As an organization, a state, a country, and globally, we faced unprecedented challenges in 2020 and continue to experience their impact in 2021. Adapting, anticipating, and leading through change has become the standard in a year spearheaded by the emergence of the coronavirus and the resulting COVID-19 disease, significant economic challenges, and renewed more passionate focus on social justice and health equity. Through it all, supporting our at-risk communities, advocating for access to treatment and medications, providing evidenced based education to our kidney patients on the impact of COVID-19 on their health, and executing referrals to needed resources, all while maintaining a commitment to the stability and safety of our Team NKFI staff, remained key priorities. With every opportunity to connect and "reconnect" internally and externally, the phenomenal stories shared with us from kidney patients at all stages along the care continuum, from caregivers, and from organizational partners have continued to inspire and inform us all.

Despite the tremendous challenges our team stayed true to our mission during FY 2021 and reached over 13,000 Illinoisans through our virtual educational programs, outreach initiatives, nutritional consults and fundraising events along with continuing professional programming and funding of key research initiatives. Additionally, we provided personal safety kits and educational materials to over 5,000 households in partnership with food and housing insecurity

events in support of the COVID-19 pandemic public health response. The changing science in the study of kidney disease with a trajectory toward kidney health, the engagement of social media with the capacity to reach millions within the state of Illinois with educational messaging, and calls for action and advocacy toward meaningful changes in public health policy all represent opportunities to effect positive change. With the guidance of our Board of Directors, the generosity of our donors, the collaboration of existing and new partners, and the dedication of our staff, NKFI remains in a strong position to advance our mission in these areas and others as we emerge and look forward.

We reflect on this past year and embark on the one ahead with a sincere appreciation for our kidney communities, our supporters and donors, our staff, our Board and all other partners in this journey. We applaud and value you all. We will move forward together with resilience and purpose and impact.

Sincerely,



Tipu Puri, MD, PhDNKFI Board President



Jagulm Burges Bulge, FACHE

Jacqueline Burgess
Bishop, FACHE

CEO- NKFI

NKFI STATS AT A GLANCE

PANDEMIC RELIEF KITS DISTRIBUTED

PARTICIPANTS SCREENED for kidney disease, diabetes & hypertension*

54 % with at least one ABNORNAL RESULT

11 participants viewed our VIRTUAL PATIENT PROGRAMS

 $\$201_{0}000$ RESEARCH GRANTS

RENAL PROFESSIONALS attended virtual continuing education events

states represented at the virtual **WALK FOR KIDNEYS**

196 **WITNESS SLIPS** signed in support of bills SB2501 and SB1918

61% INCREASE in advocate participation

*KidneyMobile® screenings were extremely limited during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in fewer screenings held. See page 11 for more information.

STORIES OF IMPACT

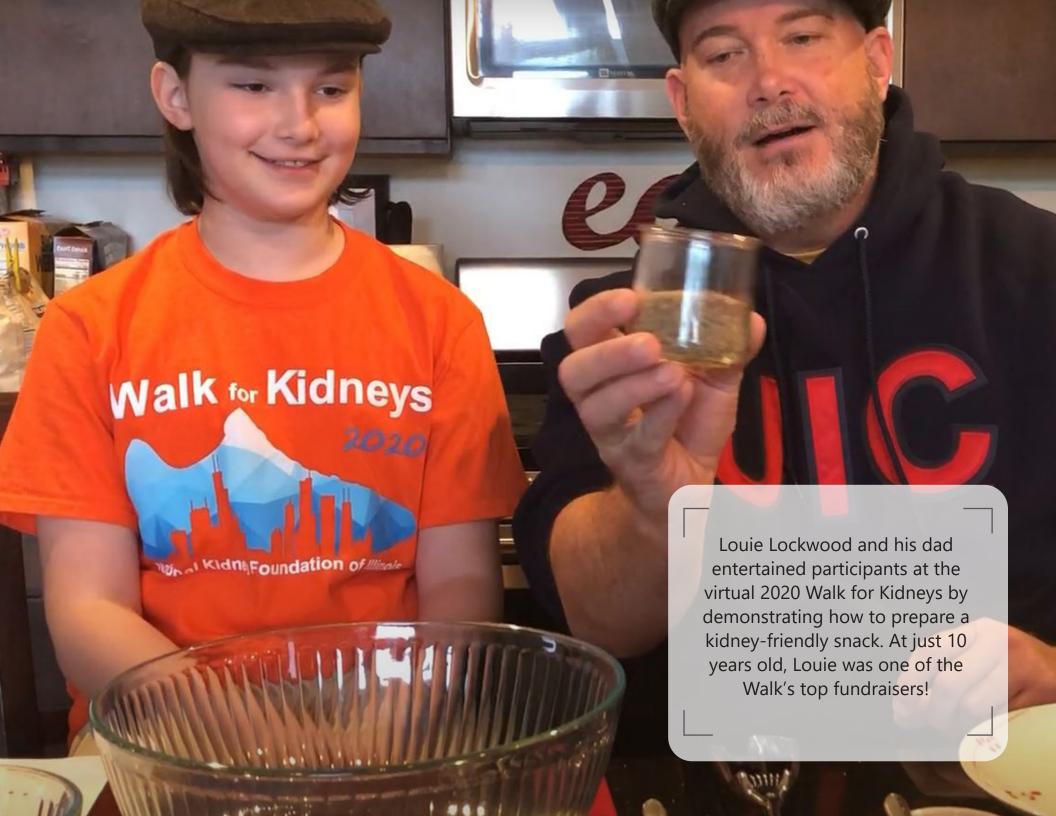
The National Kidney Foundation of Illinois is able to improve the lives of patients and families touched by kidney disease with the help of supporters like you. Your passion and generosity creates valuable patient resources, and every gift you make brings Illinois one step closer to a future free from kidney disease.



MEETING VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES WHERE THEY ARE

When the pandemic temporarily halted our ability to conduct regular KidneyMobile® screenings, our KidneyMobile® and Outreach teams got to work finding another way to reach vulnerable populations with the message of kidney health. The solution was simple but the impact was great.

In Spring 2020, we partnered with community outreach groups to create the KidneyMobile® Pandemic Relief Initiative. Deploying the KidneyMobile® screening vehicle to the city's hardest hit areas, we distributed relief kits with essential hygiene items, personal protective equipment, and valuable health information in both English and Spanish about chronic kidney disease and its major precursors, diabetes and hypertension. In FY2021, we conducted over 40 pandemic outreach events and distributed more than 6,000 relief kits to households seeking support in high-need areas and disproportionately impacted communities of color.



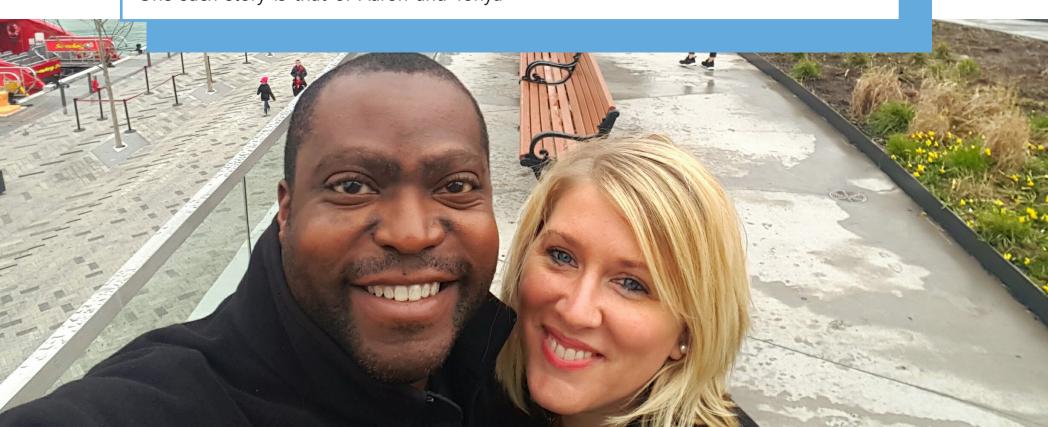
REACHING NEW AUDIENCES

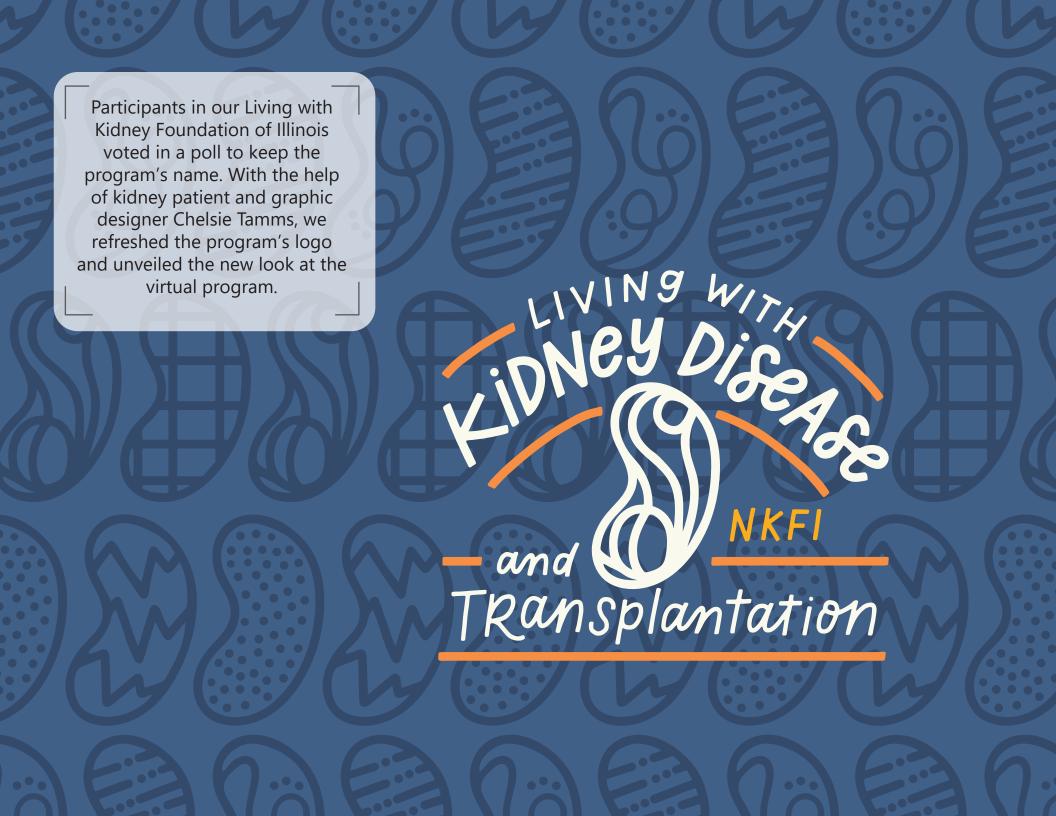
In August 2020, we launched a new podcast, sponsored by Donate Life Illinois. The show, The Journey Continues, is committed to promoting kidney health and organ donation through powerful stories. Hosted primarily by Monica Fox, a kidney transplant recipient and our Director of Outreach and Government Relations, the series features the journeys of kidney patients, transplant recipients, donor families and industry experts who continue to educate the community through their own experiences and stories.

One such story is that of Aaron and Tonya

Rhoden. Married for just a few years, they learned Aaron would need a kidney transplant. Tonya was a match! Unfortunately, doctors advised her that they were unable to accept her donation until she decreased her BMI and improved her A1C. She worked with our Foundation Dietitian Dr. Melissa Prest and a few months later, their transplant surgeries were completed successfully.

Twenty-four episodes are currently available for download on YouTube, Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and all other podcasting platforms.





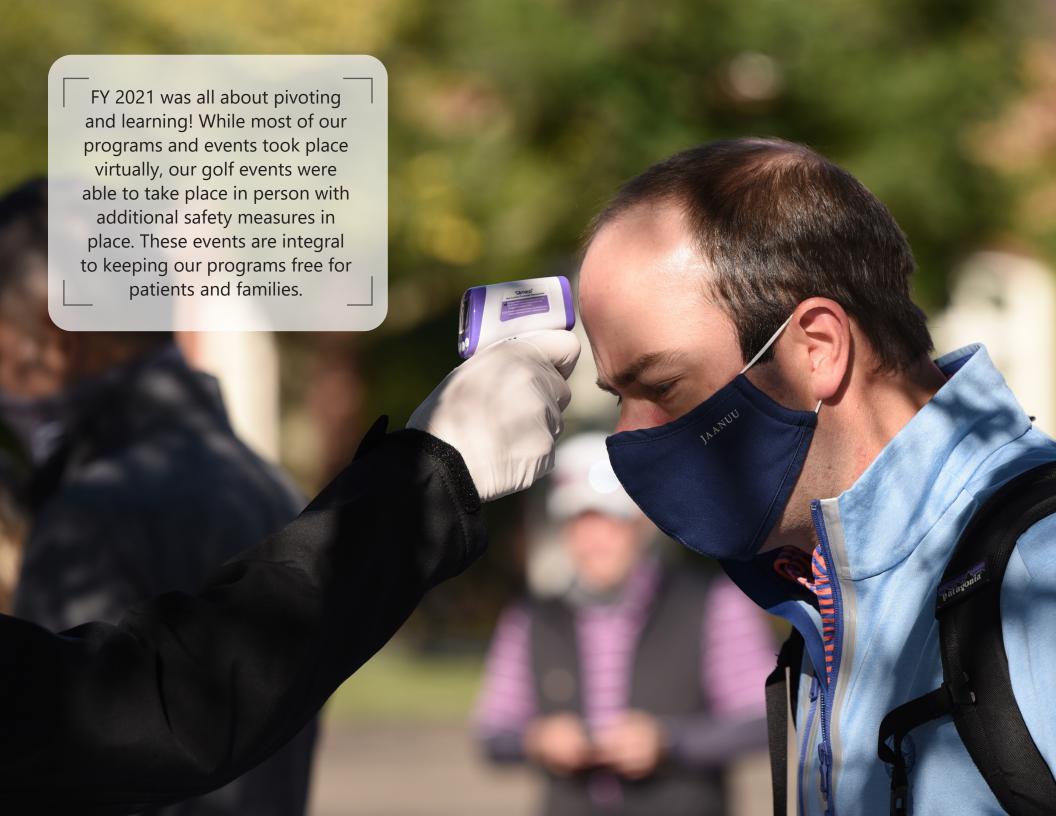
PASSAGE OF THE IMMUNO BILL

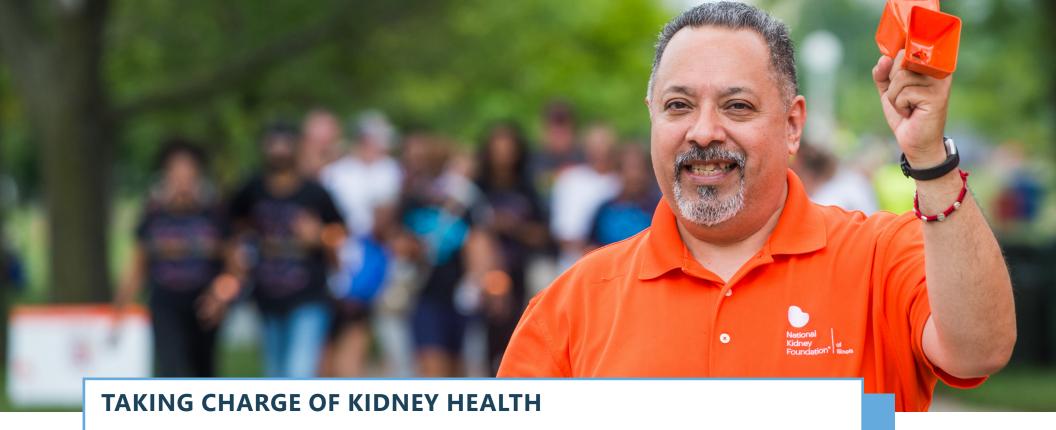
A patient with kidney disease has their dialysis treatments paid 100% by Medicare. Medicare will also pay for a kidney transplant. However, until the Immuno Bill passed, these kidney recipients only received immunosuppressive drug coverage for 36 months after transplant. If a recipient did not have alternative health insurance or did not otherwise qualify for Medicare, they lost their medication coverage.

The problem was obvious, as these medications are required for the transplant's life, and for the past two decades, we've advocated with the American Society of Transplantation to end the arbitrary 36-month limit and include lifelong coverage in this policy. In December 2020, the most significant legislative victory for the kidney and transplant community in over ten years was finally passed!

Illinois Senator Dick Durbin (pictured) was one of the bill's co-sponsors and champions through the legislative process.







Disease Self Management Programs. Led by trained facilitators, this free, eight-weeklong workshop is for participants who are in various stages of Chronic Kidney Disease. The program helps patients focus on overall

healthy living, as well as kidney-specific

needs.

One participant said, "my experience was something that was both educational and life-changing. I'm very determined to stay my life!" the course with eating healthy and limiting

In April of 2020, we launched the first of three my protein intake. Before embarking on this (and counting!) virtual Take Charge: Chronic 8 week journey, I was depressed in learning that my kidney function had declined. However, this was due to exercising to the extreme without proper hydration. When asked if I would like to participate in the Take Charge program, I was elated to know that I would be sharing my story with people like myself... I felt right at home. Their stories not only inspired me, but made me realized that I have CKD [chronic kidney disease], but CKD doesn't have me. Take Charge has changed



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Physicians, medical experts, business leaders, patients, and caregivers make up the FY2021 Board of Directors. They offer their expertise, guidance, and personal experiences to enrich the NKFI.

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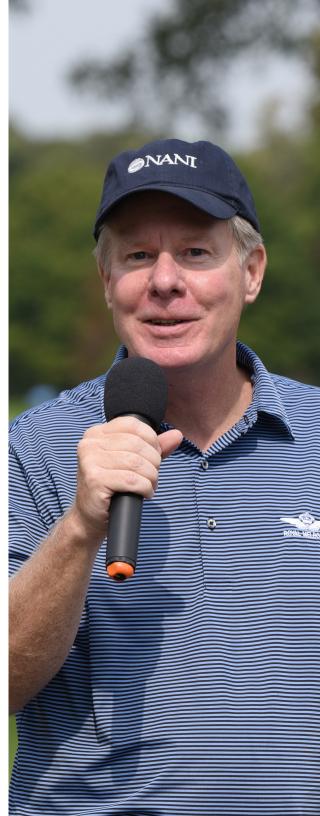
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Melisa Prest, DCN, MS, RDN, CSR, LDN
Foundation Dietitian

Keena PrestonOutreach Coordinator

Mateo Solis Rueda, MPH Programs Associate

Kathleen Toledano
Office & Finance Administrator

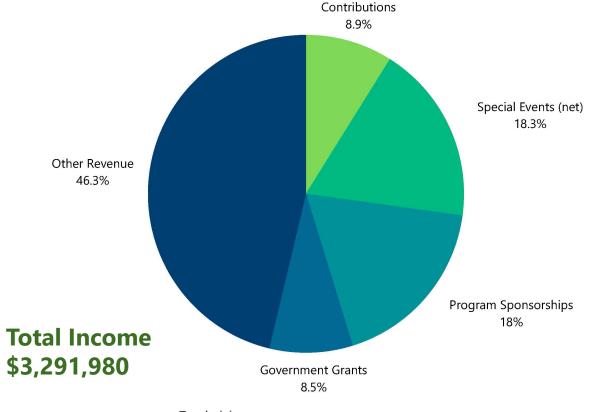
Regina White, CNA, CPT KidneyMobile Manager

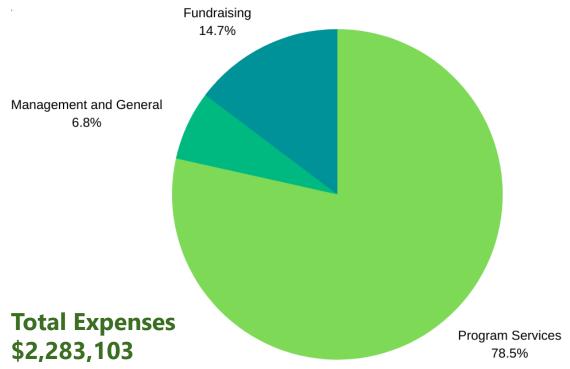
Allie Widmer Special Events Coordinator



OUR FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

When you give a gift to the National Kidney Foundation of Illinois, you impact thousands of lives across the state of Illinois. Your support for our mission allows us to provide free community health programs, drive research, and advance patient care and treatment.





TOTAL YEAR-END NET ASSETS* \$7,589,993

SUPPORT & REVENUE

CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions & Bequests \$293,560 Special Events \$601,416

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

Government Grants \$280,689 Program Services \$593,645

Total Grants & Contributions \$1,769,310OTHER REVENUES

Other \$210,348

Net Investment Gain \$1,312,322

Total Other Revenue \$1,522,670

TOTAL REVENUES AND SUPPORT \$3,291,980

EXPENSES

OPERATING EXPENSES

Program Services \$1,695,836 Fundraising Expenses \$349,512 Management & General \$237,755

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$2,283,103

^{*}The net assets of a nonprofit organization are the value of the organization's assets minus its liabilities

INDIVIDUALS, TRUSTS & FAMILY FOUNDATIONS

\$100,000+

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Foundation

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\$200,000+

Treasurer of the State of Illinois

\$50,000-\$199,999

Gift of Hope Organ & Tissue Donor Network

\$25,000-\$49,999

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Fresenius Medical Care
Katten, Muchin, Rosenman
Foundation, Inc.
Nephrology Associates of
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Foundation

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Associates in Nephrology
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& Aronoff LLP
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CIBC
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\$5,000-\$9,999

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\$2,000-\$4,999

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\$1,000-\$1,999

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215 West Illinois Street Suite 1C Chicago, IL 60654 **nkfi.org** The National Kidney Foundation of Illinois improves the health and well-being of people at risk for or affected by kidney disease through prevention, education and empowerment.