

## Editorials / Opinion

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### Seattle snow

Posted by [Letters editor](#)

#### Hats off to you

When we make the list of lifesaving heroes of our recent stormy weather, Metro Access and Hopelink deserve to be at the top.

In good weather, almost half of Northwest Kidney Centers' 1,100 dialysis patients arrive for treatment via one of these services that provide transportation for those who cannot drive or ride the bus.

Patients come three times a week for dialysis treatments that clean impurities from their blood, remove extra fluid and balance minerals. Normal kidneys do that job for most of us 24/7. Missing even a single dialysis appointment can be life-threatening, which makes the transit system a vital link.

When snow and ice packed the roads these past two weeks, transportation became even more important to our lifesaving mission. Road conditions discouraged most drivers. However, Access and Hopelink responded with creativity in their quest to transport our patients every single day of the week to their greatly needed treatments.

They braved the snow from 6 a.m. until late in the evening, juggled schedules nonstop, and transported hundreds of patients for life-sustaining dialysis under trying conditions.

On behalf of our patients who have placed their lives in our hands, our hats are off to Metro Access and Hopelink.

-- Joyce Jackson, Northwest Kidney Centers President & CEO, Seattle