

Community Connection

Volume 3, Issue 2 • Spring 2014

A tapestry of stories and voices

Join us for the **Breakfast of Hope May 8**

An award-winning Native American poet, novelist and performer, Seattle-based Sherman Alexie grew up on the Spokane Indian Reservation in Wellpinit, Wash. His work draws from his life experience, including the four years his father spent on kidney dialysis.

Sherman will be the keynote speaker at the 12th annual Northwest Kidney Centers Breakfast of Hope. Known for the energy and emotion he brings to his talks, Sherman will touch you and make you laugh. Join him Tuesday, May 8 at the Breakfast of Hope to be inspired and learn about our mission: to promote the optimal health, quality of life and independence of people with kidney disease through patient care, education and research.

Read more on pages 2 and 3.



Photo by Will Austin.

Novelist, poet and screenwriter Sherman Alexie will be the keynote speaker at the Breakfast of Hope May 8.

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Distinguished Service
Award goes to...



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May 8, 2014

BREAKFAST OF HOPE

STORIES AND VOICES

7:30-8:45 a.m.

The Westin Seattle Hotel
Register at

nwkidney.org/rsvp

206-720-8585



May 8, 2014

BREAKFAST OF HOPE

STORIES AND VOICES



Rise and shine for an energetic breakfast

12th annual BREAKFAST OF HOPE

7:30 - 8:45 a.m.

The Westin Seattle Hotel
Grand Ballroom

Suggested donation: \$150

Register at:
nwkidney.org/rsvp
or 206-720-8585

Join us at the Breakfast of Hope to learn about and support Northwest Kidney Centers' home dialysis and charity care programs.

People who give themselves dialysis at home have a 61 percent better survival rate than patients who dialyze in a center. At Northwest Kidney Centers, 17 percent of patients do self-treatment at home, compared to 8.5 percent nationally. We promote home dialysis as a preferred treatment for many people with kidney failure. To support them, we offer free classes to help patients evaluate their options, and individualized training and regular monitoring for those who decide to do home treatments.

Our charity care program helps patients whose insurance does not fully cover the cost of dialysis or needed medications. Charity care also provides transportation assistance, emergency grants and nutritional supplements to patients in need.

Joining Sherman Alexie on the podium



Lori Hartwell, Inspiration

Living with kidney disease since age 2, Lori Hartwell is the founder of the Renal Support Network and author of "Chronically Happy – Joyful Living in Spite of Chronic Illness." She is the 2014 recipient of Northwest Kidney Centers' Clyde Shields Distinguished Service Award.

Read more on page 3.



Enrique Cerna, Master of Ceremonies

Emmy award-winning broadcast journalist Enrique Cerna has worked in Seattle radio and television for 39 years as a reporter, producer, host and executive producer at KOMO, KING and KCTS.

'An illness is too demanding when you don't have hope'

Inspiring hope: Renal Support Network founder Lori Hartwell receives Northwest Kidney Centers' highest honor

Named for a machinist who was the world's first long-term dialysis patient, the Clyde Shields Distinguished Service Award honors a person who has contributed significantly to the welfare of kidney patients through advocacy, clinical care or research.

Northwest Kidney Centers has selected Renal Support Network founder Lori Hartwell as the 2014 recipient of the Clyde Shields Award in recognition of her advocacy work and leadership within the kidney patient community. Living with kidney disease since age 2, Lori has made a significant impact on Northwest Kidney Centers patients and others across the country during the past 20 years.

Lori's organization, the Renal Support Network, helps patients develop their coping skills, special talents and employability by educating and empowering them and their family members. It provides policymakers with the patient's perspective on the needs and capabilities of people with chronic kidney disease.



"Lori has made a huge difference in the lives of people with chronic kidney disease through her advocacy and support services. She is the model of living a fulfilling life despite chronic illness. She is known by renal leaders throughout the nation as an independent and committed voice for services and programs that advance the quality of life of kidney patients."

—Joyce F. Jackson, Northwest Kidney Centers president and CEO



Growing cheer

Frank Jones is 2014 Volunteer of the Year

Lake City patient Frank Jones is the volunteer gardener for the clinic and adjoining Blagg Pavilion.

Since Northwest Kidney Centers opened its Lake City clinic and the adjoining Blagg Pavilion in January 2002, Frank Jones has donated hundreds of hours each year to take care of the grounds, making them beautiful and welcoming.

With more than 35 years of professional gardening experience, Frank contributes special knowledge, skills and elbow grease year-round: mulching and fertilizing the soil, watering, pruning trees, and designing and weeding beds. He donates the materials and often makes colorful floral arrangements to brighten the Lake City clinic. Frank has also volunteered at the annual Breakfast of Hope and lent a helping hand for special projects.

Frank was one of the first patients when Lake City opened, and is still receiving dialysis 12 years later. Northwest Kidney Centers is grateful to Frank for his dedication, generosity, service and care.

Last year, 563 volunteers donated 8,425 hours of their time to Northwest Kidney Centers.

If you'd like to volunteer, contact:

Syrenka Slettebak

206-720-8540

syrenka.slettebak@nwkidney.org



A second chance to attend prom

Chelsea Brazier admires her dress as she prepares for the Renal Teen Prom. Chelsea gets dialysis treatments at Northwest Kidney Centers' Renton clinic.

Chelsea Brazier missed her high school senior prom, so she was ecstatic about the opportunity to attend Renal Support Network's 15th annual Renal Teen Prom in southern California.

The 23-year-old mother was treated to a break Jan. 19 when Northwest Kidney Centers selected her to attend the special prom for young kidney disease patients.

Chelsea was diagnosed with kidney failure three years ago while she was pregnant, and she gave birth prematurely. While her newborn daughter stayed behind in the hospital's intensive care unit, Chelsea trained to do peritoneal dialysis so she could spend more time with the baby. After a year and a half of home treatments, she began dialysis in-center at Renton because she found it works better for her schedule.

At the prom, Chelsea was able to meet other young people who had missed out on events such as prom because of their kidney treatment regimen. With her cousin Leanna Davis by her side, Chelsea enjoyed a night of glamor and excitement, filled with dancing, food and celebrities such as Jack Black and Kyle Gass of Tenacious D, and "The Blind Side" star Quinton Aaron.

"The fun was getting dressed up and getting to feel like my kidney disease doesn't stop me from having a good time," said Chelsea. "I got to meet new people and realize that there are other people who are going through the same thing I'm going through."

Chelsea Brazier and her daughter are featured on this year's Breakfast of Hope invitation.

Our doors are open at new Kirkland Center



We have opened a new community dialysis clinic and home dialysis support hub at **11327 NE 120th Street in Kirkland**. Conveniently located for Eastside patients, the 17,000-square-foot facility provides more space to train patients for home treatments and hold monthly clinics for peritoneal dialysis and home hemodialysis patients. This facility replaces PD support formerly offered at our Lake Washington facility in Bellevue, and makes home hemodialysis support available on the Eastside for the first time.

Our Kirkland home dialysis training hub was made possible by gifts from:

Byron & Alice Lockwood Foundation

Harry and Clare Cayo Wilson Trust

PACCAR Inc

Rotary Club of Bellevue

And thank you to The Boeschoten Foundation for its generous gift to help purchase an emergency generator at Kirkland to minimize disruptions during power outages.

One percent legacy gift: it's easy and it helps

Want to help Northwest Kidney Centers, but don't know where to begin? Got time or money limitations? A bequest in your will is a great place to start. It allows you to make contributions after you've passed away.

You may think you don't have enough money to donate and won't have any kind of impact, but that simply isn't true. Your gift, no matter the size, will ensure we can continue to sustain life, fund research to improve care and bring hope to those impacted by kidney disease.

Why give a percentage of your estate?

Giving through your will won't affect your current income. By putting aside a percentage of the assets in your will or trust – from 1 to 100 percent – you can leave a legacy with Northwest Kidney Centers, while ensuring your family's future security.

If you give annually you can extend your support of our mission, leaving a lasting legacy without impacting your current income. You can always change your mind in case your circumstances – or the economy – should change.

Join the one percent legacy campaign today and support our patients and their families in numerous ways – offering them hope, time and the opportunity for a brighter future.



Contact:

Larry Richards

Gift planning officer

206-720-8550

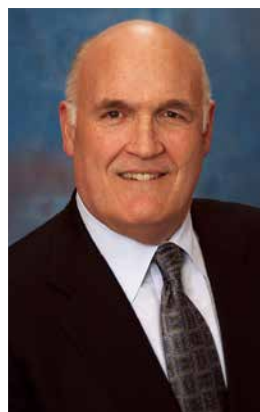
legacy@nwkidney.org

Welcome, new Foundation Board members



Debbie Treen

Sammamish resident Debbie Treen was a kidney donor to her daughter, so she is well acquainted with the kidneys' vital role. A former chief financial officer for the Neptune Society and past mayor of Bothell, Debbie works as a consultant with CFO Selections in Bellevue.



James Liming

Jim Liming is a senior vice president and commercial lender at Heritage Bank. A resident of Lake Forest Park and member of the Rotary Club of Seattle, Jim first learned about Northwest Kidney Centers at a Rotary fellowship event held at our Seattle dialysis clinic.

Tell Us Your Story



How has Northwest Kidney Centers touched your life? Share your story and be inspired by others at

www.facesofnwkidney.org



Mark your calendar

Breakfast of Hope

Thursday, May 8, 2014

7:30 a.m., Westin Seattle

Discovery Gala

Saturday, Nov. 1, 2014

5:30 p.m., Hyatt Regency
Bellevue



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206-292-2771



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Pharmacy: 206-343-4870 or 1-800-947-8902

Northwest Kidney Centers promotes the optimal health, quality of life and independence of people with kidney disease through patient care, education and research.



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President and CEO Joyce Jackson named Outstanding Health Care Executive

Our president and CEO, Joyce F. Jackson, was named Outstanding Health Care Executive of the year by **Seattle Business Magazine**.

In her 15 years at Northwest Kidney Centers, Joyce has guided the nonprofit to be a model in the field because of high-quality services, community connections and generous donor support. During her time, Joyce has:

Expanded patient care.

- We provide dialysis at 15 dialysis centers and 10 regional hospitals, up from seven centers when Joyce arrived in 1998.
- Northwest Kidney Centers outperforms the nation on patient survival, hospitalization, transplant referrals and other quality measures.
- Joyce enhanced special care for very ill patients and our renal-specialty pharmacy.

Focused on education.

- Joyce commissioned in-house development of free public classes about nutrition, treatment options, and how to get and keep a kidney transplant.
- Joyce is an influential voice on national boards and policy coalitions.

Supported research.

- Joyce was instrumental in founding the Kidney Research Institute, a collaboration between Northwest Kidney Centers and UW Medicine. Fueled by \$6 million in seed money from Northwest Kidney Centers, the institute has published 477 scientific papers and now has 46 groundbreaking studies underway. It has attracted \$46 million in federal grants.