

Research addresses patients' health and quality of life

The everyday lives of people on dialysis may dramatically improve in coming years thanks to a new device from the University of Washington's Center for Dialysis Innovation (CDI), funded in part by Northwest Kidney Centers.

The CDI won a prestigious prize from KidneyX, a public-private partnership designed to accelerate innovation in kidney care, for a wearable hemodialysis device that allows patients to dialyze around the clock. The device is called the AKTIV (Ambulatory Kidney To Improve Vitality).

"Having more freedom is a major plus," says Wade Washington, a University of Washington student who volunteers at the Kidney Research Institute, a collaboration of Northwest Kidney Centers and UW Medicine. Wade was on dialysis in high school before receiving a kidney transplant. "I would have preferred the AKTIV. Going in for treatment three or four days a week really isolated me socially."



To hear more of Wade's story, join us on Oct. 26 at the Discovery Gala, which raises funds for kidney research.

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**Hear about exciting
kidney research at the
Discovery Gala on
Oct. 26!**

**Register today at
www.nwkidney.org/gala**

Transforming lives through research

DISCOVERY GALA

Saturday, Oct. 26
5:30-11 p.m.
Hyatt Regency Bellevue
900 Bellevue Way NE



Longtime friends of Northwest Kidney Centers, Parul and Gary Houlahan are 2019 Discovery Gala honorary co-chairs.

What will you take home?



Cancun adventure
Relax during a week on the Riviera Maya



Huskies sports
Go Dawgs! 2020 football and basketball package



Gamble Sands golf
Play the top course in Washington



Wine package
Enjoy Maryhill's new spot in Woodinville



School has started for this year's employee scholarship recipients. Front row, from left: Tamera Ferguson, Amanda Son, Alpha Jane Lirio, Anna Aslanidi, Jenna Blegen. Back row: Ashley Nonato, Sam Wilson, Angela Thayer. Not pictured: Candy Caldwell.

Scholarships help staff advance their careers

Thanks to the generous support of individuals, foundations, staff and businesses, nearly 30 employees have pursued higher education to advance their careers since 2011. This year nine employees were awarded \$18,000 in scholarships.

Boeschoten Foundation Scholarship:
Anna Aslanidi, nurse care manager
Tamera Ferguson, patient accounts representative
Ashley Nonato, registered nephrology nurse

Alene G. "Pat" Farr, RN Scholarship:
Jenna Blegen, registered dietitian
Alpha Jane Lirio, dialysis technician
Amanda Son, dialysis technician
Angela Thayer, nurse supervisor

Martha Alger Jasper Memorial Scholarship:
Sam Wilson, dialysis technician

Northwest Kidney Centers Employee Scholarship:
Candy Caldwell, patient accounts representative

Leading the nation in quality

By every measure, Northwest Kidney Centers quality ratings are among the best in the nation again this year.

Superlative star ratings.
According to Medicare's 2019 report (based on 2018 performance) Northwest Kidney Centers earned an average of 4.63 stars on a 5-star scale, the highest we've ever achieved.

Strong clinical performance.
According to federal Dialysis Facility Reports, our clinical performance exceeds the U.S. average in important areas. Our patients:

- live longer
- receive more transplants
- have fewer hospitalizations
- have a higher rate of flu immunization

Highly satisfied patients.
Twice a year an independent firm surveys our patients about their perceptions of the care they receive. The federal government rated 10 of our clinics based on 2018 survey results. Of the rated clinics, 90% received a superior score of 4 or 5 stars for overall patient experience of care.

Register at www.nwkidney.org/gala
Watch our website for more exciting and fun auction items!



Receive this newsletter by email
Go to www.nwkidney.org/subscribe or email communications@nwkidney.org



Legacy gifts leave a lasting impact

Three of Northwest Kidney Centers most generous donors passed away this year.



Bill Peckham

Bill Peckham (1963 - 2019)

Bill was perhaps the nation's most famous dialysis patient because of his blog, "From the Sharp End of the Needle." He shared his view that "dialysis should not take over our lives, but enable us to live the life we were meant to live." Bill chaired Northwest Kidney Centers board of trustees, served on the Foundation Board, was a longtime donor and included a generous gift in his will.



Louise Legaz

Louise Legaz (1932 - 2019)

A donor, volunteer and Heritage Society member, Louise was a lifelong Seattle resident and popular high school teacher. She got to know Northwest Kidney Centers while helping her sister, Mary Ann Brusich, who experienced kidney failure. The nutrition education room at Haviland Pavilion is named for her in recognition of her generous estate gift.



Bert Lundh

Bert Lundh (1927 - 2019)

Bert had the distinction of being the only person to serve three terms as chair of our Foundation Board. He tirelessly spread the word about Northwest Kidney Centers to the local business community, Seattle's Nordic community and lawmakers in Olympia. In 2008 he received our highest honor, the Clyde Shields Award. Bert was a generous donor during his lifetime.

Start planning your year-end giving now

As the end of the tax year approaches, it's time to think about year-end gifts. Here's why:

- Giving appreciated stocks, bonds or mutual funds owned for more than one year can support our mission while providing you with tax savings. When the market is up, donate appreciated stock directly to us. You'll bypass capital gains and benefit from a potential charitable gift deduction. When the market is down, it may be preferable to sell stock at a loss and use the proceeds to fund your gift.
- People 70½ and older with an IRA still have time to make a charitable distribution in 2019. Your plan administrator can send your gift directly to Northwest Kidney Centers. IRA gifts are great for those who don't itemize or can't use a deduction.
- Year-end is a good time to review your overall estate and financial plans. Your legacy gift to Northwest Kidney Centers via your will, trust or beneficiary form is always welcome.



Jane Pryor, CFRE
Vice President of
Development and
Communications

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Chairs contribute greatly to comfort during treatment, but they do wear out.

Pull up a chair and help make a patient more comfortable

Dialysis requires a patient to sit for about four hours, three days a week. That's at least 600 hours a year.

We have begun a multi-year plan to replace chairs in all clinics, home training suites and patient homes, at a cost of about \$3,500 per chair. Your support will help us reach this goal sooner.

The new chairs selected by patients and staff are comfortable, durable and easy to clean and repair. The chairs are heated to offset the chill many patients feel during treatment.

To help fund a new dialysis chair and increase the comfort of our patients, please contact:

Jacqui Weber, Development Director
206-720-8544
jacqui.weber@nwkidney.org



Take advantage of our specialized pharmacy

Online : www.nwkidney.org/refill-a-prescription | Phone: 206-343-4870 | Toll-free: 1-800-947-8902

New logistics center improves patient



Chris Matala, Director of Northwest Kidney Centers Supply Chain, demonstrates how the gravity-fed racking system ensures the first supplies coming into the warehouse are the first to be distributed to clinics.

As Northwest Kidney Centers has grown to 18 dialysis clinics in three Western Washington counties, it becomes more challenging to make sure that all supplies are ready and waiting when a patient arrives for treatment — whether it’s in Seattle, Enumclaw, Fife or Port Angeles.

To make sure we remain efficient and prepared, in August we opened a state-of-the-art logistics center, part of a new campus at S. 128th Street and 20th Avenue S. in SeaTac.

The LEED Silver building provides more than 7,000 square feet of warehouse space, enhanced inventory and ordering systems, gravity-fed racks and an expanded loading dock. In addition, the logistics center houses a biomedical lab for repairing dialysis machines and office space for staff.

Offices and dialysis clinic round out new campus

In early September administrative staff began moving into the second building on our new campus.

In mid-October a new dialysis clinic will open, replacing the current clinic in West Seattle. We’ll offer home dialysis training and chronic kidney disease education, as well as in-center dialysis.



Next Step classes: www.nwkidney.org

care, safety and efficiency



Materials handler and lift operator Jayson Fernandez pushes a cart of supplies to the loading dock for delivery to a clinic.



The logistics center loading dock features automated doors, dock levelers and direct lighting at each bay to improve safety while supplies are loaded and unloaded. Roofing with skylights helps keep the area dry and well-lit.

Giving our care staff more time with patients

Instead of delivering bulk medical supplies to clinics to be stocked and later gathered by clinic staff, we’ll deliver pre-assembled treatment kits with all necessary supplies ready to go. An assembly line in the new warehouse puts together eight kit variations. This change allows clinic staff to do more of what they do best: care for patients.

Infection prevention and environmental stewardship

We’ve eliminated a significant amount of plastic and cardboard from our distribution processes. In place of wooden pallets, re-useable carts and bins are used to deliver supplies.

Packing materials are recycled or disposed of at the logistics center. This prevents dust and germs from reaching our clinics and patients. It’s a significant step to protect the health of our patients since infections are the leading cause of hospitalizations among people on dialysis.



Northwest Kidney Centers provided 283,000 dialysis treatments last year.



www.nwkidney.org
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Northwest Kidney Centers: 206-292-2771

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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700 Broadway • Seattle WA 98122

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Carrie McCabe will serve as interim CEO

Carrie McCabe, vice president of finance and chief financial officer at Northwest Kidney Centers since 2014, has been appointed interim chief executive officer.

She will guide the organization during recruitment of a president and CEO to succeed Joyce Jackson.



CEO Joyce Jackson will retire Nov. 1.

Join us for Joyce Jackson's send-off Oct. 23

The community is invited to a farewell reception and open house for Northwest Kidney Centers' retiring president and CEO Joyce Jackson. We'll gather at 700 Broadway in Seattle on Oct. 23 from noon to 3:30 p.m. A formal program will begin at 1 p.m.

After leading Northwest Kidney Centers for more than 21 years, Jackson will retire Nov. 1. She took the reins from Dr. Christopher Blagg in 1998. The next CEO will be the fourth since the organization was founded in 1962. Northwest Kidney Centers board of trustees is conducting a national search for Jackson's replacement.