Quality care isn’t a privilege, it is a right. Everyday at Northwest Kidney Centers we are working to increase opportunities for everyone to live the healthiest life possible, no matter who they are, where they live or how much money they make.

Our work is ongoing. We acknowledge systemic racism has put up barriers for people of color to gain access to quality care. Discrimination has led to distrust of doctors and the healthcare system. At Northwest Kidney Centers, we are committed to removing these barriers to care for anyone with kidney disease.
Disparate health outcomes are linked to decades of social and economic injustice rooted in racism. We have made it our mission to address the disparities in health care through early intervention, education about treatment options and support of transformative translational research so that patients who come to Northwest Kidney Centers have the best possible outcomes.

The Northwest Kidney Centers Difference: Better Health Outcomes

- Double the chance of a transplant
- 30% lower chance of being admitted to a hospital
- Fully supported in dialyzing at home
- Access to the best clinical trials in the world

“I wish I would have learned more about kidneys and the role they play in my overall health. Northwest Kidney Centers is doing wonderful work to educate our underserved communities of color.”

John Mosby, patient

KIDNEY DISEASE BY THE NUMBERS

- 37M adults in the United States live with kidney disease
- 3X Black Americans are 3X more likely than white Americans to experience kidney failure
- 70% increase in the number of Hispanics experiencing kidney failure since 2000

1 National Kidney Foundation
Disparities in Care

Whether it is implicit bias in the referral process or inequity in access to education materials, we know people of color are less likely than white people to enter into different treatment options.

- White patients with kidney failure are 4 times more likely to receive a transplant than black patients.
- Black patients are 24% less likely to dialyze at home
- White patients are twice as likely to access palliative care services than are black or Hispanic patients.

Each year, we reach more than 10,000 people through health education outreach to communities of color.

We fund emergency transportation costs so patients can safely travel to and from treatment.

We provide financial counseling to help patients navigate the costly burden of treatment.

2000+ Patients served each year

1/2 Nearly half of patients live below poverty line

50%+ More than half of patients identify as people of color

www.nwkidney.org
Achieving Our Vision, Together

At Northwest Kidney Centers we welcome everyone regardless of insurance. Our vision is to create a world where kidney disease no longer inhibits people from living their best lives. We will only achieve this through inclusive, equitable care.

Our Approach to Creating an Inclusive Care Environment

- Because 90% of people with chronic kidney disease are unaware that they have it, we focus on early detection and education, especially in Black, Asian and Native American populations that are at higher risk for developing kidney disease.

- Two-thirds of people with kidney disease don’t know their treatment options. Northwest Kidney Centers offers free classes that explore all care options, including transplant and at-home dialysis.

- Our patients speak more than 80 languages. Our dietitians, social workers and educators work to make critical information available in a number of languages.

- To ensure patients from various backgrounds are receiving guidance on how to live better, healthier lifestyles, our dietitians are trained in culturally appropriate diets.

- We partner with HopeLink, King County Metro Access and ride share companies to reduce barriers for patients to get to treatment.

- When physicians are the same race as the patient, patients report higher levels of trust, which is why we invest in and support diversity in nephrologist fellowship training.

“\nWe know systematic inequities in society have been a barrier to care for people of color. We are committed to overcoming these challenges to ensure all people impacted by kidney disease have access to safe, high-quality, dignified care.\n”

Rebecca Fox, President and CEO, Northwest Kidney Centers
Donor investment is needed to continue to provide equitable care. We know that with your support, we can grow our services to serve historically marginalized communities more equitably and drive better health outcomes.

For more information on supporting equitable care, please contact Jennifer Mounsey: jennifer.mounsey@nwkidney.org or 206-720-8563

www.nwkidney.org