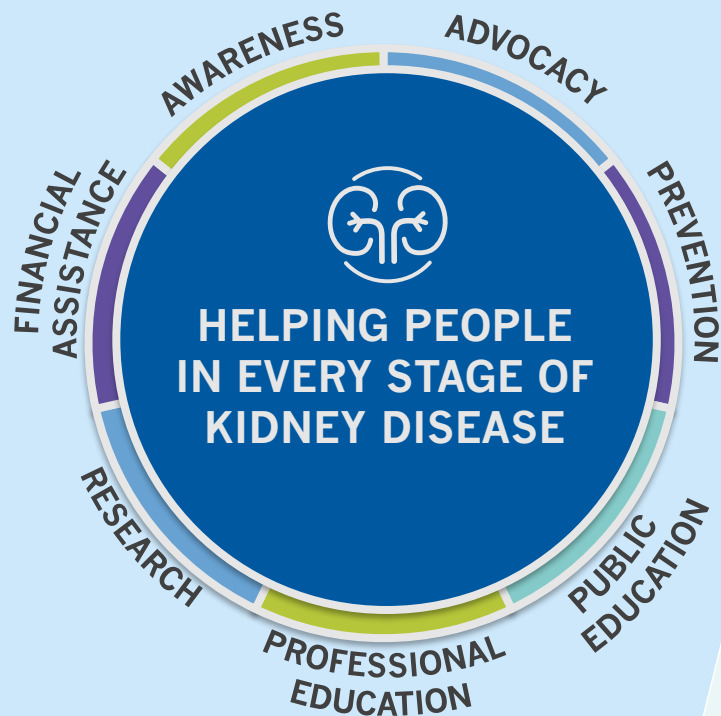




 American Kidney Fund<sup>®</sup>  
FIGHTING ON ALL FRONTS



# FIGHTING ON ALL FRONTS SINCE 1971



**AWARENESS**



**ADVOCACY**



**PREVENTION**



**PUBLIC EDUCATION**



**PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION**



**RESEARCH**



**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

# FIGHTING ON ALL FRONTS



## **Awareness and Advocacy**

We are a strong and independent voice advocating for policies that improve access to health care and strengthen quality of care for patients with kidney disease. We work with Congress, the Administration, and local governments to make kidney disease a national priority.

Our goal is to draw attention to chronic kidney disease as a national health crisis while also effectively engaging patients, professionals and caregivers with our mission and vision.



## **Prevention, Public Education, & Professional Education**

Reaching patients early to help them prevent kidney disease or manage its progression is one of our primary strategic objectives. Through our Know Your Kidneys campaign, we seek to educate the public about the risks for kidney disease, help identify high-risk patients through direct health screenings, and provide guidance to those patients through education and follow-up.

We offer top-rated educational content to the public in a variety of formats including our website, tools, webinar series, fact sheets, dialysis planners and other customized offerings.

Our free professional education program geared to both prescribers and allied healthcare professionals ensures patients get the highest quality care and have the best possible outcomes.

# FIGHTING ON ALL FRONTS



## **Research**

For 30 years AKF has been attracting promising young researchers to the nephrology field through its Clinical Scientists in Nephrology Fellowship.

We are strong supporters of the Kidney Health Initiative and the KidneyX program because we recognize that the patient voice should be central to the development of new therapies.

We are also very committed to drug discovery and work closely with the pharmaceutical and biotech industry to engage patients in the clinical trial process



## **Financial Assistance**

Since AKF's founding we have helped patients financially and for over 20 years we have done this through our Health Insurance Premium Program. We provide over \$270 million annually to patients to pay their premiums.

We also have a Safety Net program that provides one-time per year emergency grants to help with transportation, medication or other treatment-related costs.

Our disaster relief program is the only direct financial assistance program in the country for dialysis patients who are affected by natural disasters to help them replace medications and food or pay for transportation to treatment or housing if they are displaced.

# WHAT SETS AKF APART



## EFFICIENCY

**97 cents of every donated dollar** is used exclusively for programs



## RECOGNITION

**Four-star rated charity** for 18 years in a row by Charity Navigator



## SERVICE

**Serve more people** at risk than any U.S. kidney disease nonprofit



## FULL SPECTRUM

**All stages of kidney disease** from prevention through transplant



## PATIENT-FOCUSED

**Patients are at the center** of everything we do



## INDEPENDENT

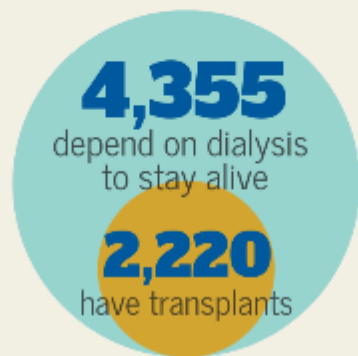
**Volunteer Board of Trustees** and >60,000 donors



# KIDNEY FAILURE IN OREGON

**6,575**  
**Oregon residents**

are living with end-stage renal disease (ESRD, or kidney failure). Without treatment—dialysis or a transplant—ESRD is fatal.



SOURCE: U.S. Renal Data System 2018 Annual Data Report

In 2018, only about 1 in 3 Oregon patients on the waiting list got a kidney transplant.

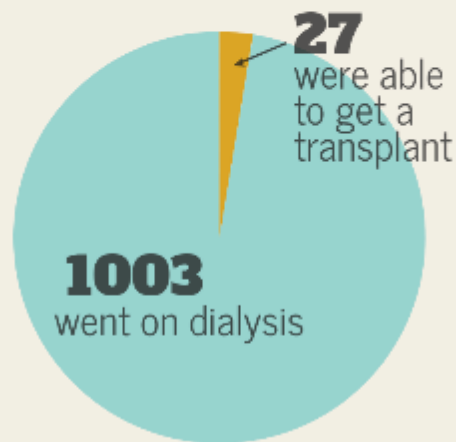


**706** are on the waiting list for a kidney transplant  
**246** kidney transplants were performed in Oregon in 2018

SOURCE: Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network

**1,030**  
**New cases of kidney failure**

were diagnosed in Oregon in 2016 (the most recent data available).



SOURCE: U.S. Renal Data System 2018 Annual Data Report

# CHARITABLE PREMIUM ASSISTANCE SAVES LIVES

## Kidney failure devastates lives—physically, emotionally and financially



80% of dialysis patients are unable to work.



Without dialysis or transplant, ESRD, or kidney failure, is fatal.



>1/3 of new cases of kidney failure crash into dialysis with little or no warning.



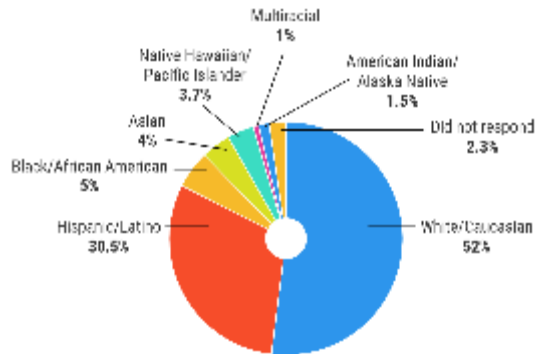
Even patients on Medicare need supplemental insurance to avoid bankruptcy

**The American Kidney Fund provides a vital safety net for some of Oregon's most vulnerable residents.**



# WHO AKF HELPS IN OREGON

Last year AKF helped 948 low-income Oregonians with kidney failure access the health care they need to stay alive.

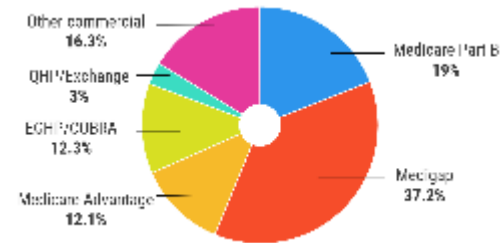


Average age: 57.3

Average household income: \$23,204

Percent on Medicare: 70%

AKF helps Oregon patients pay premiums for all types of insurance plans, including Medicare





# THE FACTS ABOUT AKF'S PROGRAM

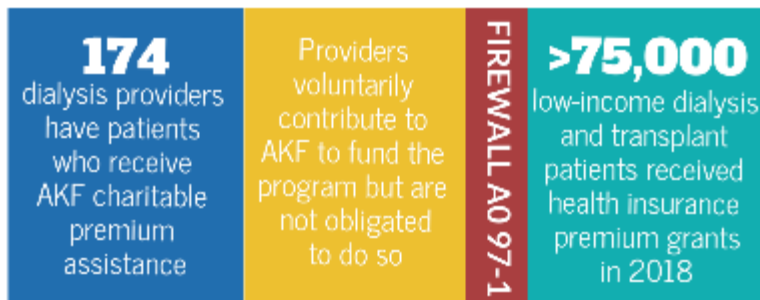
**AKF's Health Insurance Premium Program was established in 1997 with approval from the U.S. HHS Office of the Inspector General.** Our program has several important hallmarks:

- It is 100% need-based.
- **We help patients for the full insurance plan year.**
- **We do not advise patients on insurance coverage**, and we have protections in place to guard against providers using the program to steer patients into particular coverage options.
- We help patients regardless of their insurance plan or their medical providers.
- Dialysis providers support the program financially. Our firewalls protect against donor influence.
- Donating providers have no assurance that their patients will receive grants. **Donations go into one national funding pool and we process applications first-come, first-served.**
- The program often runs a deficit because of the enormous need, and because about **half of the dialysis providers who have patients receiving grants do not donate to AKF.**
- Grant assistance follows the patient. Patients may change insurance plans or health care providers without losing their aid from AKF.
- **We assist patients post-transplant for their full plan year.**

# THE FACTS ABOUT AKF

**AKF operates the Health Insurance Premium Program under strict guardrails that ensure patient privacy and dignity along with freedom of choice:**

- AKF does **not** sell, sponsor, recommend or favor any type of insurance or any provider.
- Patients are already insured when they come to AKF, often with plans they have had for years.
- AKF maintains a strict firewall between contributions and grant requests.
- Patients may apply to AKF directly for their grants.
- A large majority of the patients AKF helps are on Medicare.



**Our program is governed by federal guidelines that create a strict firewall between contributions and grants.**

**\*\*About half of the dialysis providers with patients who receive AKF assistance to do not contribute to AKF.\*\***

# WHAT HAPPENS IF PATIENTS LOSE AKF'S HELP

**The vulnerable patients AKF helps have few options without AKF's financial assistance:**

- Unable to pay premiums, many will lose their health insurance.
- Many will face crushing medical debt.
- Some will eventually qualify for Medicaid after spending down their assets.
- Others will seek treatment in emergency rooms, straining hospital resources and raising health care costs for all Oregonians.
- Those on the transplant waiting list may lose their place if they lose their insurance or have to change it.
- Some will ration medications or take other measures to save money that can have devastating health consequences.
- Inevitably, some will die because their access to health care has been disrupted.

# AKF AND KIDNEY TRANSPLANTS

**For patients fortunate enough to qualify and able to find a match, a kidney transplant is the best treatment for ESRD. AKF's assistance makes transplants possible for low-income patients.**

**KidneyFund.org is one of the leading online resources for information about kidney transplant and organ donation:**

- Preparing for transplant | Types of transplant | Transplant in children | Life after transplant | Living organ donation

**We are working to get laws passed to increase living organ donation:**

- AKF introduced living donor protection legislation in 15 states in 2019, and it became law in 9, including Oregon

**Our charitable assistance for patients post-transplant helps them transition from dialysis:**

- Since 2018, our assistance has enabled more than 1,750 individuals to afford the transplant workup, the transplant surgery and post-transplant medical care.



American Kidney Fund®

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