

THE KEOP FILTER

KEOP By The Numbers:

- NC Citizens Screened:
3350
- Counties hosting
outreach activities: **38**

Community Outreach Update

On April 16th, the KEOP will conduct its 100th community-based free CKD screening event.

Funding Watch

- In February, the KEOP applied for an R-34 NIH NIDDK grant to implement the Kidney Care Coordinator Educator Certification distance learning curriculum in partnership with the NC Community College System and the Rural Health Group, Inc.
- The AHRQ grant for which the UNCKC applied was funded & a one-year pilot study will conclude in September.



<http://www.unckidneycenter.org/outreach.html>

RAVEN ROCK RAMBLE, KIDNEY KARE 5K RUN/WALK, AND BREWSTER ENDOWMENT PROVIDE FUNDS TO ASSIST UNCKC DIALYSIS AND KIDNEY TRANSPLANT PATIENTS



Mary Hall, a RRR volunteer and David Cole at 2010 RRR

Patients on dialysis frequently encounter significant financial challenges. Medicare coverage for dialysis begins on the first day of the fourth month of dialysis (coverage begins earlier for those trained for in-home dialysis), but serves as the secondary payer for the first 30 months of Medicare coverage. Many patients are not able to continue their employment while on dialysis and, thus, are not able to sustain their private or employment-based insurance and others are on limited, fixed incomes prior to beginning treatment. Essentials such as medications, utilities, groceries and transportation are often beyond a patient's financial resources.

Medicare coverage begins the same month a person receives a kidney transplant, but recipients face significant dental and transportation costs associated with pre-transplant evaluation and preparation. Potential living kidney donors may also incur dental expenses, temporary loss of income, and travel expenses. Unfortunately, the economic downturn has diminished national not-for-profit organizations' patient assistance programs that provide aid both to patients with end-stage kidney disease and to potential living kidney donors.

THE GOOD NEWS! The Raven Rock Ramble (RRR), organized by David Cole, a kidney transplant recipient and avid cyclist, is an established century (100 mile) bicycle ride which explores the four-county area (Wake, Harnett, Lee and Chatham) around Raven Rock State Park to promote kidney health and awareness. Beginning in 2010, David Cole selected the KEOP's Patient Emergent Need Assistance Fund as the recipient of funds raised by the RRR. Last year, David's event donated over \$16,000 to the UNCKC patient assistance fund and registration for the May 1st, 2011 RRR is already complete.

The RRR funds are combined with the funds raised by the UNCKC's annual Kidney Kare 5K Run/Walk (KKR) conducted in Chapel Hill. Over the KKR's six-year history, more than \$75,000 has been generated to aid UNC kidney patients with emergent needs and to finance the KEOP's free, community-based CKD screenings. Suzie Hosman, KKR event director, reports that the recent March 19th event raised over \$12,000.

The Brewster Endowment, announced in our Summer 2010 *Kidney Filter*, provides funds dedicated to assist both kidney transplant patients and potential living donors who are identified by their social worker or physician as having emergent needs such as medical/dental care, food, rent, utilities, and transportation.

The maximum annual award for individual dialysis patients is \$300. Individual awards for transplant candidates, recipients or potential living donors are a maximum of \$2,000 per year. Providing financial assistance to UNCKC kidney patients is making a positive difference in patients' clinical outcomes and in the quality of their lives. To date, over 100 kidney patients have received assistance. **Thank you to David Cole and RRR participants, the Brewster Family and KKR participants!**

KEOP HIGHLIGHTS

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA KIDNEY CENTER (UNCKC)

Ronald J. Falk, MD –Director

J. Charles Jennette, MD –Assoc Director

Donna H. Harward Director of Education and Outreach

Trina Pugh—Center Administrator

Suzie Hosman—Development Officer

Caroline J. Jennette, MSW—Research Specialist

For more information about the KEOP, contact:

Donna Harward

Campus Box #7156

919-966-2561 ext. 300

FAX:919-966-4251

Donna_harward@med.unc.edu

Upcoming KEOP Events

April

- 6th—Plymouth Health Department
- 7th— Piedmont Dragway, Julian
- 9th—Health Link, Roanoke Rapids
- 14th—UNC Health Care
- 15th—Cultural Wellness Center, Jackson
- 16th—Vernon James Center, Plymouth
- 30th—Nebo Baptist Church, Murfreesboro

Did you know?

The KEOP provided free screenings and KEOP information to members and staff of the NC General Assembly on March 9th—a resolution acknowledging March as Kidney Month in North Carolina has been approved by the House and awaits Senate approval. (HB146 -Parfitt/Insko) and SB111 -Purcell)

Primary Risk Factors for CKD:

- Diabetes
- Heart Disease,
- Hypertension
- Family history of kidney disease

- Dr. Abhi Kshirsagar received AHRQ (Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality) funding to assess the validity of the SCORED (an innovative algorithm for predicting an individual's risk end-stage renal disease) for African Americans. Donna Harward, Director of the KEOP and study co-investigator, is leading the community-based component of the study in two KEOP target Counties: Washington and Northampton.
- The KEOP's "Transform Lives: Be An Organ Donor" billboards debut in Asheville, Rocky Mount and Wilson this spring.
- Bea Jefferson, Sara Futrell, Charlie Mallory and Chester Deloatch (KEOP spokespersons) are featured on "HEY DOC, HOW ARE MY KIDNEYS?" billboards in Northampton County. (see image below)
- The UNC Kidney Center's sixth annual Kidney Kare 5K had a record setting number of participants on Saturday, March 19th. All proceeds are used to help sustain the KEOP's free screening and education programs, to send pediatric kidney patients to kidney camp, and to provide assistance to dialysis patients with emergent needs such as utility costs, food, transportation and medical expenses.
- The KEOP will conduct its **100th free CKD screening** on Saturday, April 16th at the Vernon James Center in Plymouth, NC.
- On Thursday, April 7th, the A&Z Motorsports Team's yellow 1969 Camaro and Red 2000 Firebird will race at Piedmont Dragway (Julian ,NC) to promote awareness about CKD's primary risk factors and the importance of being registered as an organ donor. Free CKD screenings will be offered from 4-7 PM.
- On Sunday, May 1st, the 10th annual Raven Rock Ramble begins at 8:30 AM, Harris Lake County Park, New Hill, NC. <http://www.ravenrockramble.org/>

If you would like for the KEOP to conduct a screening or information session in your district, please contact Donna Harward 919.966.2561 ext 300 or donna_harward@med.unc.edu.



Burnett Womack Bldg.
Campus Box #7156
Chapel Hill NC 27599

Diabetes • Heart Disease • Hypertension • Family History of Kidney Problems?

Remember to ask:
Hey Doc,
how are my
kidneys?

1-866-259-2230
unckidneycenter.org

