

# SHOUT OUT for Kidney Health PEERS in Action

PEERS in Action are Patients who Empower, Educate, Represent and Support their patient peers by being active in their care and in the dialysis clinic's improvement efforts. Peers in Action are positive examples of living life well on dialysis and their work to help others do so too.



## Susie Atterberg

Susie Atterberg lives in Keokuk, Iowa with her husband. She started her kidney journey with an anti-glomerular basement membrane (anti-GBM) diagnosis and spent 1 1/2 years on in-center dialysis before receiving a kidney from a longtime friend in February 2018. Atterberg deserves a **SHOUT OUT** for the annual "Twisted Sisters" event she coordinates with her donor and others to benefit the dialysis patients and staff. Susie was the first honoree of the Ardyth M. Boucher Legacy Award in 2019, because of her efforts. She is a Network Patient Representative and member of the Network 12 Patient Advisory Council. Read more about Susie's story in our [Heartland Headlines patient newsletter](#).



## Doug Carrell

Doug Carrell lives in Morrill, Neb. and does in-center hemodialysis at Scottsbluff Dialysis Center. He deserves a **SHOUT OUT** for his exceptional work as a Network Patient Representative sharing his insight, time and talents to improve the patient experience for his peers. He has worked with the staff to improve patient outcomes, meets with new patients and has helped with events to help with patient and staff morale. Carrell is also on the Network 12 Patient Advisory Council. Watch the Partnering Together-Benefits of Patient Representatives [webinar](#) that includes the partnership story presented by Carrell and his social worker, Erin Kontogiannis.



## Debra Cohns

Debra Cohns lives and does in-center hemodialysis in St. Louis. She deserves a **SHOUT OUT** as the 2020 Ardyth M. Boucher Legacy Award winner for her advocacy efforts at Fresenius Kidney Care-North County, supporting the patients at the clinic and in her community. To read her story, download the [Heartland Headlines patient newsletter](#). Click [here](#) to watch a video of Cohns receiving the award and to learn more about how she lives well with kidney disease and is making a difference in the lives of others.



## Della Major

Della Major deserves a **SHOUT OUT** for Kidney Health. She serves as a member of the Patient Advisory Council and also served as Facility Peer Representative at her previous dialysis facility. Major has also served on national patient committees for all 18 ESRD Networks, including NCC Mental Health, Grievance, and HAI Affinity Groups. In 2020, Major launched her non-profit organization L.Y.V.E – Living Your Life Victorious and Empowered. L.Y.V.E’s purpose is to educate, empower, and advocate on behalf of individuals living with Kidney disease. Follow Major on Facebook at [L.Y.V.E](#), or subscribe to her YouTube page at [You Can L.Y.V.E](#).



## Quin Taylor

Quin Taylor is a Chronic Invisible Illness Warrior, Patient Advocate and Speaker, who deserves a **SHOUT OUT** for Kidney Health. At the age of 27, Taylor had to start dialysis. She learned about patient advocacy, jumped in headfirst and has had the pleasure of working with many organizations. She decided to take her experience to educate others about the importance of the patient voice and patient empowerment. Taylor has recently founded Tayloring Gratitude to help individuals with chronic, invisible illnesses manage life with their diagnoses. Learn more about [Tayloring Gratitude](#).



Visit our websites to read more stories about patients living well with kidney disease.

[ESRDNetwork10.org](#) | [ESRDNetwork12.org](#)

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