# Better Together Transplant Trailblazer

Peer-to-peer support is a proven method to inspire people on dialysis to seek their best treatment option. Hearing directly from others with similar experiences helps connect and empower patients in their treatment choices.

## A Transplant Trailblazer:

- Is a kidney transplant recipient
- · Is inspired to share their transplant journey with other patients
- · Understands the terms, process, and benefits of kidney transplant
- · Supports fellow patients in their decision toward transplant
- · Has effective communication and empathy skills and promotes positivity
- · Is a trusted confidant for dialysis peers

## **Benefits**

#### **Transplant Trailblazer**

- · Remain motivated in their treatment
- Expand leadership skills through knowledge sharing
- Improve problem-solving and communication skills by sharing experiences
- Contribute to something larger than themselves by supporting the overall quality of life for people with kidney disease

#### **Fellow Patients**

- Increase knowledge of kidney disease treatment options
- · Encourage advocating for their own health
- Empower awareness of the steps required for transplant
- · Expand the patient support circle

#### **Your Clinic**

- Increase patient accountability by encouraging patients to maintain and engage in their post-transplant treatment plan
- · Increase the facility rate of referral to transplant
- Support national goals of Advancing American Kidney Health
- Improve patient engagement and creates a patient community
- Improve focus on successfully sustaining kidney transplant
- Reinforce and supplements transplant and modality education for in-center patients

## How To Get Started

Work with your team to identify a patient(s) who may want to fill the role of the Transplant Trailblazer. Connect your Transplant Trailblazer with fellow patients who are interested in learning about kidney transplant. Support your Trailblazer with regular check-ins, resource sharing, and tips for connecting. Think about virtual platforms like Zoom or Google Hangouts, text messaging, phone conversations, or in-person meetings when possible. Celebrate your successes!

## **Patient Stories**

Scan this QR code or visit our website to hear stories from real patients about their experiences with kidney disease and transplant. esrd.qsource.org/patients/patient-stories/





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