

November 2010

Dear Friend:

Do you realize that 1 out of every 9 people in the United States has or will develop chronic kidney disease? In the city of Baltimore, MD, the ratio is closer to 1 out of every 8 people. Many affected with kidney disease make life-threatening choices based upon money, such as whether to buy food or medication. The National Kidney Foundation of Maryland (NKF-MD) needs your support to continue our mission to prevent kidney disease and assist kidney patients with managing their disease.

- The NKF-MD's patient Emergency Financial Assistance Program can help support a dialysis or transplant patient struggling to pay a utility bill, buy medicine or afford transportation.
- Funding is also provided for health screenings held in underserved areas throughout Maryland. This year 1/3 of the 600 people screened exhibited abnormal test results.
- NKF-MD supports medical research to identify new treatments.

Thank you for your previous gift to the annual fund, which last year enabled NKF-MD to distribute \$180,000 to help patients in need. It is now time to renew your support for fiscal year 2011. Given the economic downturn, more people are turning to NKF-MD than ever for assistance and the increased demand for services comes as a cost. While we realize the downturn may have impacted you as well, your gift can change the life of patients in need by providing food, medicine and funding for essential medical research. Won't you join with others today in making a meaningful contribution before year end?

Make your gift by December 31, 2010, to receive a tax benefit for this calendar year. All gifts make a difference. Thank you for your generosity. Best wishes for a joyous holiday season.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wanda Lessner".

Wanda Lessner
President

