

ANNETTE EROS IS THE NEW PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE KIDNEY TRUST

The Kidney TRUST has named Annette Eros as President and CEO. Prior to joining the TRUST, Annette had an extensive non-profit consulting practice assisting community organizations in strategic planning, governance, and development matters.

"We're very pleased to have Annette take the helm as President & CEO of The Kidney TRUST and will be looking to her to build a vibrant organization that will play an important, ongoing role in the fight against kidney disease," said Margaret Laws, chairperson of the TRUST's board of directors. "The TRUST made great strides under the leadership of founding CEO Barbara Lawson and the board is confident that Annette will now take the TRUST to the next level."

The Kidney TRUST's free rapid-screening program, which identifies individuals who show signs of chronic kidney disease (CKD), has reached almost 13,000 people since its launch in October 2007. Along with learning their screening results onsite, participants receive materials that offer education about CKD and its prevention and are encouraged to seek medical follow-up as appropriate. The TRUST also focuses on the unmet needs of people who have CKD through its Financial Assistance program for people on dialysis. The program has awarded more than 500 grants totaling \$1.2 million in the last two years.



Annette Eros

"More than 31 million Americans have CKD, but people around the country are just waking up to the full scope of the problem," said Annette. "As a relatively new organization, the TRUST has a tremendous opportunity to address the gaps of knowledge and action that exist relating to kidney disease. My initial focus will be on identifying the areas where we can have the greatest impact as well as expanding and designing programs to address these unmet needs."

Annette developed a broad range of nonprofit management expertise during her 14-year tenure as executive director at Ronald McDonald House Charities of San Diego (RMHCSD). She earned her master's degree in leadership and nonprofit management at University of San Diego and graduated from San Diego State University where she earned a bachelor's degree in journalism.

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Make a tax deductible donation to fight kidney disease at kidneytrust.org/donate/

“ SHARE YOUR STORY

March was National Kidney Month and during this time the TRUST focused on reaching out to people affected by kidney disease to ask for their personal stories relating to this problem that affects 31 million Americans. In asking the public to contribute their own stories, the TRUST was requesting help with our mission of spreading the word about kidney disease and the importance of early detection and treatment.

The TRUST received many emails in response to this request and **two of the people who came forward are featured below**. We will continue to feature stories from our readers -- please go to our homepage at www.KidneyTRUST.org and make just one click to share yours. ”

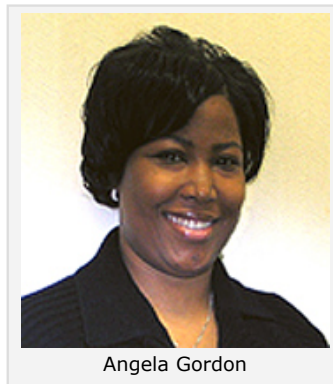
MEMPHIS WOMAN DOESN'T LET KIDNEY DISEASE SLOW HER DOWN

Angela Gordon of Memphis, Tennessee was diagnosed with high blood pressure and scarring of the kidneys when she was just 19 years old. Over the course of ten years her kidneys eventually failed and she began CAPD dialysis, which allowed her to continue working full-time. (*Continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis or CAPD is done at home.*) After being on dialysis for almost four years, Angela received a kidney transplant. Unfortunately, her body rejected her donated kidney after two years and at age 36 she's currently back on dialysis and on the waiting list for another transplant.

Despite these setbacks in her health, Angela maintains a very upbeat point of view. "I try to stay positive," says Angela. "For me, a positive attitude is the key to everything." After years of treatment, Angela is very focused on how important it is for her to concentrate on her diet and overall health. She tries to adhere to the proper diet and keep her blood pressure under control.

Angela has a strong message to others about living with kidney disease. "Being diagnosed with kidney disease should be a wake-up call," she noted. "Many people don't really feel that bad in the early stages of the disease and think they can just ignore it. My strong advice is to accept that you have the disease, listen to your doctor and do everything you can to protect your kidneys. Kidney disease isn't going away, but you can slow it down by doing the right things."

Angela has not let her condition slow her down too much. She maintains her job as a data entry operator for Ducks Unlimited and travels whenever she can. Her last trip was a cruise around Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula and this year she plans to take a cruise through the Bahamas. "I love to travel," Angela said, "And I'm not going to let kidney disease stand in my way. I will continue to live life and enjoy every day to the fullest."



Angela Gordon

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DOWN BUT DEFINITELY NOT OUT

An Arizona Family Copes with Dialysis

Kidney disease can hit a family hard. Dave and Diane Keiser of Scottsdale, Arizona have a harrowing tale to tell about how kidney disease can strike without warning.

"Last June, after several weeks of fighting what we thought was the flu, my 41-year-old husband Dave was rushed to the hospital," says Diane Keiser. "He was in end stage kidney failure, and almost died that day. He was diagnosed with polycystic kidney disease and after 11 days in the hospital, started dialysis three days a week."

Dave eventually got insurance coverage under Diane's health plan and he has been doing very well on dialysis. Dave emphasizes, "I just try to stay positive. I watch my diet and stay on top of my labs. I can see the difference in my health when I do things right."

"Actually, Dave follows his renal diet like a fiend and works out five days a week," according to Diane. "People look at him and tell me he looks fantastic, and not sick at all. But dialysis is not a walk in the park and we are praying for a transplant."

"I'm not a very patient person," says Dave. "I can't wait to get back to work. But in the meantime it helps to be doing what I can."

Dave's sister is a blood match, so there is the possibility that she could provide a kidney at some point in the future.

Dave has been struck by how many people are affected by kidney disease. "Once I got sick I found that everyone knows someone with kidney disease," he relates. "People don't realize how widespread it is."

Dave and Diane naturally have concerns about the future, but they keep a positive focus. Diane sums it up by saying, "Kidney disease has slowed us down, but it has not beat us, and it never will."



Dave Keiser

31 MILLION
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**CHRONIC KIDNEY
DISEASE**
- AND -
**90% DON'T
KNOW IT**
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