

NFT FACES

National Foundation
for Transplants

Heart recipient begins new life

Nate Gunderson knows exactly how it feels to have a broken heart. This 31-year-old Washington resident was always a healthy, hardworking man, but everything changed in April when he awoke with a migraine. After four days of migraines, fevers and body aches, he was admitted to the hospital and diagnosed with bacterial endocarditis. Another procedure showed a cluster of bacteria around his heart that was affecting every organ of his body and causing mini-strokes.

Although Nate suffered from a heart murmur since birth, it was not until the onset of this infection that doctors discovered the bacteria around his heart had eaten a hole through one of his heart valves. With every heartbeat, 50 percent of the blood was falling back into the heart chamber. Just a few days later, Nate endured three hours of surgery while his heart valve was replaced with a St. Jude's valve. Less than a month later, he underwent another open-heart surgery to repair tissue and replace his heart valve for a second time. Doctors told Nate a heart transplant was his only hope for a second chance at life.



Nate and his wife, Genevieve, feared the worst but knew they needed to stay strong for their young daughter, Mikaela. Fortunately, Nate received his lifesaving heart transplant in July and is doing well as he recovers from the surgery.



Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

As we approach the holiday season, we at NFT are thankful for so many things – the medical professionals who tirelessly work to save our patients' lives, the selfless organ donors who offer new life to patients in need, and the generous supporters who give their time, talent and treasure to help transplant patients overcome their financial obstacles.

This summer was a busy one for NFT. We've seen a dramatic increase in the number of patients we're serving, and those numbers continue to rise. The number of patients awaiting transplants continues to rapidly increase, with a new name added to the waiting list every 11 minutes. When we printed this piece, there were almost 105,000 patients waiting, and that number will surely be higher by the time you read this. As this number grows, we expect the need for our services to multiply.

We're also proud to announce the addition of two new board members to our national board of directors. Rebecca Dugan is the business manager for the Nazih Zuhdi Transplant Center in Oklahoma City. She brings a wealth of experience in the transplant industry and will serve as an invaluable resource for our patients, volunteers and staff. Denice McMahon has worked with many charitable organizations and brings her years of marketing expertise and community involvement to our board. We're thrilled to have them join us in our mission to serve transplant patients.

I wish you and your family a very healthy and happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

Jackie D. Hancock, Jr.
President and CEO

*Visit us on Facebook,
Twitter, MySpace and
Transplant Café!*

How your gift is helping:

- \$35** can provide nutritional supplements for a patient
- \$50** can pay for one prescription co-pay
- \$85** can provide one night's lodging when a patient must seek medical care away from home
- \$100** can pay for oxygen for a lung transplant patient on the waiting list
- \$500** can cover one anti-rejection medication co-pay following transplant
- \$700** can pay for a patient's insurance premium for one month
- \$1,500** can pay for an ultrasound co-pay for a bone marrow transplant patient

Nearly 105,000 people are awaiting lifesaving transplants. Your gift can help!

This holiday season, consider the gift of life!

November is a special month for Denise Johnson. It's the month when she celebrates two birthdays -- she was born on November 7, and her new life began November 2, 2007, when she received her lifesaving kidney transplant. It's also the month she first decided to become an organ donor. Little did she know that she'd eventually count on a donor to save her life.

In May 2004, Denise was diagnosed with kidney disease. She immediately began grueling dialysis treatments, which she required three times a week.

Denise knows firsthand just how important organ donation is. She knows about the 105,000 people awaiting transplants and is grateful she's no longer on that list. She knows there is a huge shortage of registered donors, and she realizes the shortage is a particularly serious issue among the African-American community.

Transplant success rates are dramatically increased when the donor and recipient are members of the same race, but the number of minority donors is extremely low. More than half the patients awaiting transplants are minorities. In 2008, only 14% of all donors were African-American, just over 13% were Hispanic, and less than 3% were Asian.

Some facts about minorities:

- African-Americans, Asians/Pacific Islanders and Hispanics are three times more likely to suffer from kidney disease than Caucasians.
- Native Americans are four times more likely than Caucasians to suffer from diabetes, and Hispanics are twice as likely to have the disease. One in four African-American women over the age of 55 has diabetes.
- Cardiovascular diseases claim the lives of more than 104,000 African-Americans every year, and more than 40% of adult African-Americans have high blood pressure.

(Continued on page 7.)



Denise Johnson

Faithful donors support NFT for 12 years

The members of Greater White Stone Missionary Baptist Church have been faithful NFT supporters for the past 12 years. Without fail, they send a monthly donation to help us serve more patients, and we're so grateful. In fact, White Stone has made more gifts to NFT than any other organization or individual!

This generous group began supporting NFT's mission to honor a church member who passed away after battling angiosclerosis, a condition in which the walls of blood vessels harden. Over the years, they have continued to support NFT.

Our kind donors are greatly appreciated, and we want to thank the members of White Stone Missionary Baptist Church for their steadfast support.

Our most sincere thanks to the White Stone congregation for their dedication to NFT!

Recent Transplants

We're thrilled to announce that the following patients received their transplants!

These patients were transplanted between January and September 2009.

January

Dawn Appel, bone marrow
Joanna Balzer-Voguit, heart
Wayne Carter,* liver
Bob McCoy, liver
Rachel Moore, heart
Marquita Priestler, kidney
Michael Spooner, liver/kidney

February

Siham Bahloul, bone marrow
Steven Bennett, liver
Jerry Burns, stem cell
James Dorff, liver
Joseph Eager, liver
Cynthia Jett, kidney/pancreas

March

Fred Bennett, liver
Hannah Bhagwandeem, liver
Patricia Boyd, liver
Patricia Groves, kidney
Kathryn Miller, kidney
Albert Montemayor, lung

April

Peyton Black, kidney
Robert Caldwell, liver
Raymond Maldonado, liver
Rowdy Turner, liver

May

LaTosha Banks, heart
Edward Begin,
kidney/pancreas
Marilyn Broach, double lung
Kenneth Caraballo, kidney
Thomas Cassidy, double lung
Kathy Downey, liver
Tannia Munoz, bone marrow
Alice Myatt, kidney

Michael Noble, kidney
Herminia Sanchez, kidney
Michelle Wilkerson, stem cell
Lee Yon, kidney/pancreas

June

Evelyn Bass, liver
Johnnie May Calhoun, kidney
Alexandra DiDomizio, stem cell
Peter Muritu, stem cell
Jeremy Powell, double lung
Tracy Smith, bone marrow

July

Ken Berkebile, lung
Steven Colantoni, heart
Cynthia Curtis, double lung
Jaden Dhaliwal, stem cell
Russell Ford, heart
Chad Freckleton, liver
Nate Gunderson, heart
Brenda Hall, kidney
Chuck Heller, kidney
Albert Jafolla, kidney
Gary Johnston, liver
Rajinder Kaur, kidney
Juan Lasalle, liver
Maurita Macon, kidney
Barbara Panell, double lung
Larry Smith,* heart
Alan Welch, lung

August

Calvin Anderson, kidney
Gail Breedlove, bone marrow
Ralph Coleman, liver
Desiree Corbeil, double lung
Nancy Grinstead, liver
Sandra Johnson, liver
Dominick Just, double lung
Clark Kimble, liver

Victor Kish, kidney
Lishan Knowles, kidney
David Lamb, liver
George Oakes, bone marrow
Bobby Pollard,* bone marrow
Angel Smith, double lung
Shawnice Williams, kidney

September

Faye Atchley, lung
Kendra Bodison, heart
Nathaniel Egerton, liver
Hugh Fagan, stem cell
Frank Fournier, liver
Matthew Goodman,
kidney/pancreas
Justin Hopper, kidney
Michael LeMaster, heart
Ellen Lemons,
kidney/pancreas
Lynn Macdonald,
bone marrow
Chris Robinson, lung
William Seay, heart
Linda Shumaker, liver
Michelle Stallmeyer, kidney
Avis Thomas, kidney
Marcos Tijerina, kidney

*Visit us on Facebook,
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Transplant Café!*

**We're sad to say these patients lost their health battles after receiving their transplants.
Our thoughts go out to their families.*



Dawn Appel, bone marrow transplant recipient



Jaden Dhaliwal, stem cell transplant recipient



Surfing and shopping to save lives!

What if NFT earned a donation every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our cause? Well, now it can!

GoodSearch.com is a Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

GoodShop.com is an online shopping mall that donates up to 30 percent of each purchase to your favorite cause! Hundreds of great stores, including Amazon, Target, Wal-mart, Best Buy, eBay, Macy's, Barnes & Noble and many clothing stores have teamed up with GoodShop, and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting NFT. With the holidays approaching, this is a great way to purchase gifts without having to deal with the holiday rush. Just order through GoodShop and support NFT with each purchase!

And if you download the GoodSearch toolbar, NFT will earn money every time you shop and search online - even if you forget to go to GoodShop or GoodSearch first! Add the NFT toolbar at <http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar>. When you select the charity to benefit, please be sure to enter National Foundation for Transplants.

Astellas offers value card for Prograf



TRANSPLANT EXPERIENCE

Sharing. Informing. Inspiring.

Transplant patients know how important immunosuppressants are to maintaining their health, but many patients struggle with the costs for these vital medications. If you take Prograf, Astellas Transplant offers a value card that could save you up to \$100 on each of your next 12 Prograf prescriptions!*

Astellas understands how critical it is for patients to receive the proper medication, and they've taken the steps to offer assistance for those patients who are unable to afford their Prograf. For more information about the Prograf Value Card, please visit TransplantExperience.com.

**Subject to eligibility. Restrictions may apply.*



NFT is proud to announce our new fundraiser! Dish It Out is a restaurant event to benefit NFT. The event will take place at Memphis-area restaurants on Thursday, April 8, 2010. Participating restaurants will donate a portion of the evening's proceeds to benefit NFT. If you have connections at a Memphis restaurant and would like to connect them with Dish It Out, please e-mail us at info@transplants.org.

Participating restaurants include: Circa, Currents, Huey's, Interim, Kooky Canuck, Restaurant Iris and Spindini.

We hope to expand Dish It Out to other cities within the next several years, so stay tuned!

How much does an organ/tissue transplant cost?

These costs are estimates and include follow-up care and medications for 180 days post-transplant. Transplant patients typically require a lifetime of costly follow-up care and medications, which are not calculated in these estimates. Please note that costs vary based on the transplant center and health coverage.

Heart:	\$790,000	Intestine:	\$1.1 million
Lung:	\$450,000	Cornea:	\$20,000
Double Lung:	\$650,000	Heart/lung:	\$1.1 million
Liver:	\$530,000	Kidney/heart:	\$1 million
Kidney:	\$260,000	Kidney/pancreas:	\$440,000
Pancreas:	\$275,000	Kidney/liver:	\$760,000
Bone Marrow:	\$300,000 to \$675,000		

How can I help?

There are many ways to support transplant patients through the National Foundation for Transplants.

Your gift to NFT enables us to provide financial assistance, advocacy and support to transplant patients in need. When you give an undesignated gift to NFT, your donation will help NFT patients wherever the need is greatest. If you prefer, you can direct your gift to NFT's appropriate state organ/tissue fund in honor of a specified patient.

1. Give by mail

Simply enclose a check payable to NFT in an envelope.

2. Give online

Visit NFT at www.transplants.org to donate conveniently online.

3. Give by phone

Call 800-489-3863 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Central Time, Monday through Friday.

4. Matching gifts

Many companies sponsor matching-gift programs and will match charitable contributions made by their employees. Some companies match volunteer hours with a donation. Call your Human Resources department for details.

5. Planned giving

You can leave a legacy by including NFT in your will or through estate planning.

6. Workplace giving

NFT welcomes gifts through workplace giving programs, including the Combined Federal Campaign and state programs. You can also designate NFT as your charity of choice in United Way campaigns.

Thank you for supporting NFT. With your help, we are raising hope and changing lives.



TRANSPLANTS.ORG



TRANSPLANT
CHALLENGE

(Continued from page 3.)

In April, NFT launched the Transplant Challenge to register more organ donors. So far, we've reached more than 120,000 people with our message, and we've registered nearly 1,000 new organ donors. Unfortunately, the number of patients waiting for transplants continues to increase, and we need your help to spread the word about organ donation!

To accept the Transplant Challenge, please visit www.transplants.org and click on the Transplant Challenge logo. From there, you can register online with your state donor registry. It's that easy!

We also ask you to consider making a gift to support the challenge. We're reaching out to educate Americans about this issue, and it can be costly. Your gift will help us continue these efforts. Plus, when you make a donation of \$25 or more, we'll send you a Transplant Challenge t-shirt.

*NFT empowers
transplant patients
to create futures
with hope.*



National Foundation
for Transplants

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*Nearly 105,000 people are awaiting lifesaving transplants.
Your gift can help!*