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TRANSPLANT SUPPORT ORGANIZATION

Serving Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess,
Bronx Counties and Southern Connecticut



VOL. 20, ISSUE 1

WINTER, 2015

Next Meeting Dates

2/19/2015

3/19/2015

Greenburgh Town Hall
177 Hillside Avenue
White Plains, NY 10607

Founder's Award presented to Dr. Khalid M. H. Butt

The TSO "Celebration of Life" Holiday party featured a special Founder's Award presented to Dr. Khalid M. H. Butt. The award was presented by TSO's Director Emeritus and one of the original founders. Karen is currently retired, she worked as Transplant Coordinator at Westchester Medical Center for many years and is a very respected professional in transplant and organ donation.

We would like to reprint Karen's presentation of the Founder's award so you will understand the importance of Dr. Butt's and Karen's roles in the founding of TSO.

Karen Farkas: Thank you to everyone involved in the creation of this wonderful evening. Having been involved for years in the planning & implementation of annual holiday parties, I know this was not an easy task & involved many volunteer hours to pull it all together.

This is amazing to me....who would ever have imagined that over 17 years ago, on a snowy night in February that a simple idea of a patient support group could have evolved into this wonderful organization! For those of you who were around in those early days of TSO, you understand just how far this group has come.

In early 1997, I was asked by the Rockland County Transplant support group to be their guest speaker & talk about kidney transplant at their monthly meeting. Sometime during that evening, it began to snow. I rushed a bit through the talk so all could leave before there was any accumulation (I faced a one hour commute home over the Tappan Zee bridge). When I finished, one of the members approached me. She told me she was a liver transplant recipient & was traveling from Westchester county to Rockland for these monthly meetings...through inclement weather, through traffic....would there be any possibility of forming a group in Westchester somewhere? That recipient is our very own Helen Bellhouse!

Helen & I met numerous times in my office over the following months working out the details – What would be the best time to have meetings, daytime or evening, where to have the meetings, what would we talk about, how best to get the word out, should we have speakers, what refreshments would be served, what if no one would come? This was what you would deem a real grass roots effort to get recipients & those awaiting transplant together to support each other through some of the most life-altering events. We were thrilled to think people would have a venue to come together to share prednisone horror stories over a cup of coffee and cookies.

When we had most of the details on paper, we realized that we needed some help with the implementation of our big plans. We went to Dr. Butt, my boss, kidney transplant surgeon at then the busiest center in the northeast & the Director of transplantation at WMC. I believe Helen was just a wee bit nervous!

This is how the conversation played out...

Us: Dr. Butt...we would like to start a transplant support group

Dr. Butt: That is a wonderful idea.

CONTINUED ON PG. 4

Transplant Support Organization meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month (with some exceptions) at Greenburgh Town Hall, 177 Hillside Avenue, White Plains, NY 10607

Schedule for Monthly Meetings

7:00 p.m. — Social Time; 7:30-9:00 p.m.— Meeting and program for evening

February 18 – Josh Morrison, Co-Founder of WaitListZero.org: ***“Update on Living Donation Legislation and Activities”***.

Future Meeting Agendas

March 18 – Natalie Benavides, Director Hospital Services NYODN: ***“What Hospital Services Are, What Hospitals Are Included, Who is Affected”***.

April 15 – Pat McDonough, Director of Living Donation, Montefiore: ***“Living Donation Program at Montefiore Transplant Center”***.

May 20 – Dr. Joseph Askinasi, Chiropractic Orthopedist: ***“Whole Body Wellness”***.

June 17– Dr. Margaret Sewell, Assistant Clinical Professor Psychiatry, Mt. Sinai Hospital: ***“Maintain Your Brain”***.

For directions to our meeting, donor registration form, and further information, please check our website: www.transplantsupport.org
To contact us by mail please write to: TSO, 1335 Mace Avenue, Bronx, NY 10469
Or email us: email4tso@gmail.com

We are also on Facebook. Check us out for information and updates.
You do not need to have a Facebook account to visit TSO on Facebook.

To all recipients of this newsletter.
Please send your email address so we may notify you of any last minute changes to our meetings. If you have changed your address recently please let us know so we can update our records.
Please send all correspondence to:
Janet Ocasio - janetmocasio@gmail.com

The UNOS National Patient Waiting List

Candidates as of 2/06/2015

101,565	patients waiting for a kidney transplant.
15,338	patients waiting for a liver transplant.
1,096	patients waiting for a pancreas transplant.
2,010	patients waiting for a kidney-pancreas transplant.
249	patients waiting for an intestine transplant.
3,969	patients waiting for a heart transplant.
45	patients waiting for a heart-lung transplant.
1,655	patients waiting for a lung transplant.
123,289	TOTAL PATIENTS

Every 12 minutes a new name is added to the waiting list.

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Director Emeritus
Karen Farkas

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENTS



Presidents' Letter – Winter, 2015

Dear TSO participants and friends of TSO,

2014 was a very good year for TSO! We found a very welcoming meeting venue at the Greenburgh Town Hall, we had excellent, informative monthly meetings, and we ended the year with a wonderful Holiday Party!

Throughout the year TSO board members and volunteers were busy with our partnership with the NYODN by participating in registration drives with the New York Blood Center. This sponsorship allowed us to host another training session for our volunteers. Our relationship with the NYODN has introduced us to new outreach possibilities as we continue to educate the community about the need for organ donors. We made the local airwaves through the sponsorship of the Greenburgh Town Hall both on the radio and in the local town cable news.

TSO was able to continue the work of fund-raising, resulting in more financial stability for our organization and allowing us to continue to carry out our support mission and activities.

Public policy advocacy has been an important addition to TSO's reach. We were invited to and successfully participated in a national effort to focus on the prescription needs of recipients. And recently we've added our voice on living kidney donation by working with the national TRIO organization and another organization called WaitListZero. WaitListZero is developing an agenda to promote attention to the kidney waiting list. TSO has formed a committee of board members to participate with activities of WaitListZero and other transplant support groups such as TRIO-Manhattan throughout the US; if you are interested in these public policy activities, please contact Ike Copperman or Ted Lawson. There is additional information about a recent trip to Washington by our board members in this newsletter.

All of these activities show a spirit of working together on behalf of our members.

Now we need to think about 2015! And we need to motivate with membership and volunteerism, two major themes for this year. We've worked hard to earn our presence as a first-rate group giving support to recipients, caregivers, donors, and donor families. But we need everyone to pitch in and support TSO by volunteering when you get the call. And we still want to encourage all to join TSO with a pledge of membership fees. How about everyone bringing in just one more dues-paying participant? This is your organization and it can only succeed with your help and commitment.

Still, thanks to everyone for making TSO the kind of place where people want to belong!

Janet Ocasio and Ira Copperman
Co-Presidents, TSO

TSO FOURTH Quarter Meetings Review

The October, 2014 meeting of TSO was held at the Greenburgh Town Hall. Our speaker was Dr. Vinay Nair, Interim Medical Director, Kidney Transplantation, Recanati Miller Transplant Institute, Mt. Sinai Hospital. Dr. Nair explained the new UNOS Kidney Allocation System and the new UNOS Pancreas Allocation System. Rather than simply considering who has been on kidney dialysis the longest, other factors now count in the determination. The overall consideration is how to get the longest use out of an available kidney transplant. Therefore, the age group of the donor and the recipient are factored in so that both fall into a comparable age group. For the pancreas, additional diabetes complications are considered in the listing of recipients. Although the algorithms seem complicated, Dr. Nair managed to relate them in terms we could all understand.

Our November, 2014 meeting consisted of a panel of experts discussing views on transplantation from several religions. The panel members were: Rabbi Charles Sheer, Director, Cultural Competency Education at Westchester Medical Center; Dr. Mahjabeen Hassan, Board Certified Plastic surgeon, Senior Attending at Phelps Memorial and St John's Riverside, Co-Founder/Board Member of Center for Jewish Christian Muslim Understanding, Founder/Board Member of American Muslim Women's Association; Rev. Dr. Robert J. Norris, Pastor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Elmsford, NY and Living Kidney Donor; Pastor Paul Egensteiner, Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Pleasantville, New York. Each panel member presented their views; then the floor was opened for questions. Essentially, there is solid support amongst the religions represented at our meeting. We managed to video tape the session and gave a copy to each panel member, Judith Beville from the Greenburgh Town Hall, and the New York Organ Donor Network.

In December, we all enjoyed our TSO Holiday Party at the DoubleTree Hotel in Tarrytown, NY...see additional information regarding our Holiday Party elsewhere in this newsletter.

Founder's Award presented to Dr. Khalid M. H. Butt

Continued from p. 1

Us: Dr. B....Would it be okay if we have these meetings in the conference room? (that room held about 15 people – figuring we would only have a handful at our first meeting)

Dr. Butt: Of course you can use my conference room

Us: We would like to have some sort of refreshments

Dr. Butt: You order whatever you like & I'll give you my credit card.

Us: What do you think about having a guest speaker, can we count on you to be the first? Secretly we had hoped that by having Dr. Butt speak would bring more participants.

Dr. Butt: I would be delighted.

Us: Dr. Butt, we are really nervous!

Dr. Butt: A line that I have heard Dr. Butt say thousands of times ...Don't worry, everything will be just fine.

September & the evening of the first support group meeting came quickly. Well the meeting was far more than anyone could have imagined. Over 50 people attended! There was standing room only! And the rest is history!

In those early days, we were known as TRIO (transplant recipient international organization). In 2001, we became TSO breaking away from corporate TRIO. This enabled us to have our own mission & to achieve goals that we felt were important to our group which was, and remains today, the support of transplant recipients, transplant candidates & their caregivers and the promotion of organ donor awareness. These two things have been the driving force of TSO from our meager beginnings in 1997 to the present day. The achievements of this group over these 17 years are staggering all done by volunteer efforts. These individuals, many of who were once on the brink of death or were tethered to a dialysis machine have worked tirelessly as healthy transplant recipients to help others in need. Along with transplant candidates & caregivers, TSO has flourished magnificently. I am incredibly proud & feel so privileged to have been a part of this group for so many years.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Dr. Butt because without his encouragement & limitless support, TSO would not exist. This is exactly why we felt that Dr. Butt be honored tonight.

When Ira asked me to say a few words, I asked Dr. Butt to email a copy of his CV to me as I needed to refresh my mind with the chronology of dates. Having worked at his side for over 20 years, I already knew of his achievements during his career, I witnessed many of them first hand. In any event...this is his CV, all 30 pages of it, a book in itself, longer than my Master's thesis!

Dr. Butt's medical education & training spanned 20 years, along side some of the most notable in transplant such as Tom Starzl & Sir Roy Calne; besides tonight's award he has earned & been honored by 20 other organizations; has been an attending surgeon and has had academic & medical appointments at 5 hospitals in NY as well as Directorship of Transplantation of 2 large programs, SUNY Downstate in Brooklyn & WMC in Valhalla; he has held positions from medical advisor to President & chairperson of 15 organizations, including NYODN; has been a member of 12 professional organizations; the medical director of over 25 research studies; has given a staggering number of presentations on vascular access & all aspects of renal transplant; is credited for over 170 publications in professional journals and 15 book chapters.

All of this in addition to caring for a wife and raising two daughters, performing a mere 4000 kidney transplants, an inordinate number of vascular access & other types of surgeries; mentoring young, upcoming transplant surgeons & countless renal transplant fellows; and caring for thousands of patients and their families during their best & worst moments. I can say that in my almost 40 year nursing career, I have never worked with a physician quite like Dr. Butt, my colleague & friend for over 20 years. I am confident that I can speak for all of us who worked along side of him or were lucky enough to have known him. This incredibly hard-working man is unwavering in his kindness, patience, respectfulness and humility; he is selfless and always has a positive attitude.

I will never forget the look on patient's faces when they met Dr. Butt for the first time, first they would look up, and then they would look at his hands! He made them feel safe & confident that they were going to be well taken care of. He took whatever time was needed to accomplish this, as if they were his only patient, (Sometimes to the chagrin of his office staff trying to keep his appointments on time!) but he worked tirelessly to make sure all of his patients had the best outcome possible.

Dr. Butt, tonight we honor you...not only for your generous support during those early days of TSO and your commitment to its members over the years but for the impact you have had on the lives of thousands of patients for so many years during your remarkable career.

Dr. Butt was extremely moved by this award. His closing statement to me following the presentation was: "I have received numerous honors in my life, and they all mean a great deal to me, but this honor will always hold a special place in my heart. I cannot express, adequately, what this means to me. Thank you, Janet, and thank you to TSO."

*Janet Ocasio
TSO Co-President*

TRANSPLANT SUPPORT ORGANIZATION SAYS THANK YOU TO GREENBURGH

TSO has been meeting at the Greenburgh Town Hall for one year. It has been an exceptionally welcome spot, not just for its location. The town supervisor, Paul Feiner, and his staff have made themselves available to meet our every need. When he's there, Paul will always stop in to greet us with a wave and a friendly smile.

We owe a major THANK YOU to TSO Board Member, Helen Harper, who introduced us to Paul. Helen's long-term friendship with him was entirely responsible for finding TSO this convenient and lovely meeting place.

TSO honored Paul Feiner at our 2014 Annual Holiday Dinner and Fund Raiser. As you can see from his letter below, he is wholeheartedly behind our organization and believes in our mission of support.

Letter from Paul Feiner, Greenburgh Town Supervisor

Earlier tonight I accepted, on behalf of the town, an award from the Transplant Support Organization. This organization meets at Greenburgh Town Hall each month in the evening. Members of the organization are recipients of organ transplants.

It was a fascinating and inspirational evening. I met a man (Peter Sinnott III) whose life was saved when he had a heart transplant. A short time after his transplant he went skiing and then he ran the NYC marathon in a little over 10 hours! I chatted with Hartsdale resident David Verge who always inspires me. Other attendees at the dinner had similar success stories - kidney transplants, lung, pancreas and other transplants.

The link to the organization is: <http://www.transplantsupport.org/>. What impressed me: The smiles on the faces of all the attendees. The members of the Transplant Support Organization are appreciative of the small things in life that many of us take for granted. They have been given a second chance at life. Don't get stressed over the small things. Don't get angry when you face minor obstacles or setbacks. Enjoy every day. Be positive. And if you or a family member requires a transplant, don't give up or get discouraged. Transplant survivors can live long, productive and happy lives. The transplant support organization can help those who require transplants feel good about the odds.

TSO Support at transplant centers and donor hospitals

Our very own Glenda Daggert was invited to speak at Weill-Cornell last October, 2014, about her simultaneous kidney/pancreas transplant. Glenda received her transplant at Weill-Cornell on June 23, 1999. The staff at Weill-Cornell wanted to let prospective recipients and caregivers know about the support programs offered pre and post transplant, along with the latest information on transplantation outcomes.

And then, in January, 2015, Glenda traveled to New York Presbyterian Hospital-Queens, with Lauren Muskauski from the New York Organ Donor Network. Lauren is a member of the hospital services team and used this opportunity to meet with members of the critical care and intensive care units at this hospital to thank them for their efforts as part of the organ donor transplantation process. Glenda personally thanked the staff for all that they do to make organ donation successful. The critical care and intensive care staffs are usually the first point of contact for the New York Organ Donor Network and the organ recovery process.

A Good Time Was Had By All!

TSO held its annual holiday party at the DoubleTree Hilton on December 8, 2014. And 130 of our friends showed up to celebrate.

The DoubleTree did its usual outstanding job providing a warm and welcoming site for our party. And once again, the buffet tables were up to the challenge with an excellent menu. Victor Sanchez provided the holiday music for all to enjoy. We also had a very enjoyable silent auction and 50/50 raffle, won by Anthony Acocella. And of course the party would not have happened without the hard work of all of the directors and all those who helped toward our silent auction and 50/50 raffle activities. We're very grateful for everyone who pitched in to make our Holiday Party such a success!

One of the highlights of the evening was the recognition given to a number of people. The first two awards for their volunteer activities went to George Johnson and Ron Cohen, who have worked so very diligently on behalf of TSO.

The next award went to Stefan Segadlo, from the New York Organ Donor Network. Stefan has been our supporter and champion in the organ donation community with public events, registration tables, and an interview on Univision 41 that included Janet Ocasio being interviewed about her experiences and TSO. Univision is the largest Spanish audience TV outlet in the Greater New York area.

Finally, TSO asked two community individuals to stand and be recognized. Mr. Paul Feiner, the Town Supervisor for Greenburgh, NY, has been a welcoming presence for TSO throughout 2014. Helen Harper, our Board Member and friend of Mr. Feiner's, contacted him in 2013 when we needed a new location for our monthly meetings. And Mr. Feiner responded with a very enthusiastic welcome. Working with the Town Clerk of Greenburgh, Ms. Judith Beville, TSO now meets monthly at the Greenburgh Town Hall. All of the staff in Greenburgh have been so very warm to us! TSO presented a community service award to Mr. Feiner, and he made some very wonderful remarks about TSO and organ donation.

The final award was to Dr. Khalid Butt. In 1997, three people had a vision to create a group to support the needs of transplant recipients and caregivers. But Helen Bellhouse, Ann Drummond, and Karen Farkas needed a champion at Westchester Medical Center. At that time, Dr. Butt was head of transplantation at Westchester Medical Center, already an outstanding person in the field of transplantation. Dr. Butt characteristically stepped up with the needed resources, including a place to meet, refreshments, and his commitment to the success of this new group. At our party, our Director Emeritus Karen Farkas made some heartfelt remarks, not only about the early days of TSO but also of her long-time association with Dr. Butt. Her remarks were warmly welcomed not only by Dr. Butt's friends and colleagues who were present, but also by the entire audience.

So thanks again to everyone for a great evening! Watch very soon for the date for our holiday party in December, 2015!!!

Help Support TSO and Shop Using Amazon Smile

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You shop. Amazon gives.

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

You can now help support TSO when you shop using Amazon Smile. It's simple – just sign in to www.smile.amazon.com and choose Transplant Support Organization Bronx, NY as the charity that you would like to support. The Amazon Smile Foundation will then donate 0.5% of all eligible purchases to TSO!

**New Amazon
Program Enables
Shoppers to Easily
Donate to Their
Favorite Nonprofits**

BITS & PIECES FYI...

Support Groups throughout Greater New York

There are transplant support groups located throughout the New York Metropolitan area. This includes Long Island, Manhattan, Rockland, Orange, and Dutchess Counties.

And of course there's a wonderful support group called the **Transplant Support Organization of Staten Island**, headed by Michael Marten, a double lung and kidney recipient.

This group meets the second Wednesday of every month from October through June. The group meets at the Holy Trinity church at 1641 Richmond Avenue. So if you have transplant friends on Staten Island, make sure you let them know about **TSO of Staten Island**.

For more information, Mike's email is netram59@aol.com. And his cell phone number is 718-541-1943.

TSO Public policy activities

TSO has started to look for its voice in the arena of public policy and advocacy in the organ transplantation world. Ted Lawson, our Board Member, has had long-time experience in this area, including his work for several years to see that Lauren's Law was passed in New York State. He is a member of our Public Policy and Advocacy Committee and is also on the Public Policy Committee for TRIO. In the past, Ted was a member of the Living Donor Committee for UNOS.

Along with Ike Copperman, Ted has recently become involved with an organization called WaitListZero, a group wholeheartedly devoted to expanding the use of living kidney donation as a significant part of changing for the better the number of people listed for kidney transplants.

One of the areas that needs attention under HRSA is living donation. And the TSO Public Policy Committee has taken a very active interest in living donation. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is the department in the Executive Branch under The Department of Health and Human Services that oversees UNOS.

Last month, Josh Morrison, the founder of WaitListZero, came to our Holiday Party. The recent letter-writing campaign to HRSA is part of the strategy of WaitListZero working with TSO and similar support groups to publicize efforts needed to reduce the organ transplantation wait list. The next step was a meeting on January 16, 2015, at HRSA headquarters to discuss steps to move ahead with living donation efforts. Ted and Ike were part of a group that met with HRSA. Other members of the group came from AAKP, WaitListZero, and TRIO.

If you have any interest in becoming involved with the public policy activities with TSO, please contact Ike or Ted. If you want to know more about WaitListZero, please go to www.waitlistzero.org.

Dr. Steve Lowy

Our friend and transplant recipient Dr. Steve Lowy has come through a very challenging year in 2014. Because of numerous complications, Dr. Lowy found himself in and out of emergency rooms and hospital stays for most of the year. But throughout this time, he still sent us his emails and observations even from his hospital room. He's now home and we hope speeding toward full recovery!

We want to know if you're being challenged by medical issues during the year. Please reach out to any TSO Board Member at any time to let us know how you're doing!

TSO Run/Walk Event

With a generous grant from the New York Organ Donor Network, TSO is now in the planning stages for an exciting 5K Run /Walk Event in 2015. This will be a sanctioned race to allow entrants to submit times for marathon activities.

TSO will gratefully accept all support to make this a successful event. We'll be reaching out for sign-makers, vendors, and all kinds of day-of-event volunteers.

So watch for many email blasts coming your way asking for your enthusiastic participation throughout the year.

Revised national kidney transplant allocation system is now in place

Effective December 4, 2014, the national computerized system that matches kidneys from deceased donors with patients needing transplantation was revised significantly.

Candidates who were listed for a kidney transplant prior to the implementation of the new system will not lose any priority on the waiting list. The great majority of kidney matches will continue to take place under policies that have been in place for a number of years. The revised policies are meant to provide additional transplant opportunities for all candidates, and to improve access for specific groups of patients who have traditionally waited longer than average for a transplant.

“The revised system reflects years of study and discussion involving transplant professionals, people personally affected by transplantation, and the general public,” said Carl Berg, M.D., OPTN/UNOS president. “There is broad consensus that this system preserves the strengths of existing kidney policy while improving it in ways that will help many more people.”

Key goals of the new system include:

- ✦ Extending the length of time kidney recipients may have a functioning transplant
- ✦ Making better use of available kidneys through increasing organ usage and reducing the need for repeat transplants

Improving the likelihood of receiving a transplant for candidates who are difficult to match with most donors

To achieve these goals, a number of new and revised policies were implemented. Key features of the new system include:

Individual calculations of the likely length of function of a donor kidney and of the expected length of time an adult candidate may need a kidney transplant

- ✦ Individual calculations of the likely length of function of a donor kidney and of the expected length of time an adult candidate may need a kidney transplant
- ✦ Priority matching of kidneys likely to function the longest with candidates likely to need a kidney for the longest amount of time
- ✦ Revisions to blood type matching to provide more opportunities to candidates with more rare types
- ✦ Increased priority for candidates whose immune system is not compatible with most donor kidneys

- ✦ Calculation of transplant waiting time (a key factor in allocation priority) from the date a patient begins dialysis, even if he or she started dialysis before being accepted for listing at a transplant center

Elimination of kidney payback offers and local logistical exceptions to the national system

The OPTN/UNOS Kidney Transplantation Committee will actively study the effects of the newly implemented system and will consider any future revisions or additions to ensure it meets the needs of candidates in the fairest manner possible.

[Access resources](#) to help transplant professionals with policy implementation and to help transplant candidates understand the new system.

United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) serves as the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) by contract with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Division of Transplantation. The OPTN brings together medical professionals, transplant recipients and donor families to develop national organ transplantation policy.

Published on: Thursday, December 4, 2014
<http://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/>

Happy Re-birthday to You!



***Our best wishes to all our TSO friends and participants
who are celebrating re-birthdays in
January, February and March.
Our sincerest wishes for many more
happy and healthy years to come!***

MEMBERSHIP DUES

It is time to renew your membership. Your dues allow TSO to continue doing the important work of education, support, public policy advocacy, and outreach which is so important to us all. Your dues are our main source of financial support. This is your organization, we need your dues to continue the work. Please use the attached membership form and return the completed form with your check made payable to TSO. Please don't delay.

TSO Wants You!

We encourage you to participate in our meetings and activities. Recipients, caretakers, living donors, donor families, and interested individuals are all members of our organization. In addition to our meetings, there are numerous volunteer activities we can offer to you.

For further information, please check out our website:

www.transplantsupport.org.

You can also find us on Twitter and Facebook. Check out:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Transplant-Support-Organization/158539687509?fref=ts>

https://twitter.com/TSO_Support

And you can always contact us via email at: email4tso@gmail.com

TSO SCHOLARSHIP 2015!!

Each Spring a high school junior or senior has the opportunity to apply for a \$1,000 scholarship. TSO created the scholarship to honor the memory of deceased members and to promote the importance of organ donor awareness among younger generations via a community service project.

We are in the process of updating the TSO website. The updates will clarify information for prospective applicants. In addition, the flyer will be reworked.

We will be contacting schools in our service areas in the coming months person to person to explain the purpose and importance of this program.

Our intent is to make a stronger impact within the schools so that the guidance counselor or health teacher has a better idea of who we are and what the program is all about.

THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Nancy Block
Janet Ocasio
Len Andrew





TSO Transplant Support Organization

Participant Application:

New

Renewal

Please fill out this form and mail it with your tax-deductible contribution to:
TSO, 1335 Mace Avenue, Bronx, NY 10469

NAME(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone # - Daytime: _____ Evening: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

PERSONAL INFORMATION (optional)

Birth Date: _____ Sex: _____ Marital Status: _____

Occupation: _____

CANDIDATE / RECIPIENT INFORMATION – Please check appropriate description

Donor _____ Donor Family Member _____ Transplant Recipient _____ Transplant Candidate _____

Family Member _____ Interested Individual _____ Professional _____

Have you already had a transplant? Yes _____ No _____

Type of Transplant(s) _____

Date of Transplant _____

Where did you (will you) have your transplant? _____

PARTICIPANT CATEGORIES & SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTIONS

Regular (Transplant recipient, transplant candidate, family member, donor family)

Individual Participant \$25.00

Family Participant (2 or more members, same address) \$35.00

Professional \$25.00

Please consider a voluntary donation to help support TSO \$ _____

TSO
Transplant Support Organization
1335 Mace Avenue
Bronx, NY 10469

NEXT MEETING: February 18, 2015

Transplant Support Organization's Mission

To help save lives by:

- *Providing education relating to organ donation and transplantation;*
- *Promoting organ and tissue donation as an important social responsibility;*
- *Giving support to transplant candidates, recipients, their families and donor families;*
- *Effectively communicating to government bodies and the general public, the concerns and needs that affect the welfare of those individuals impacted by the transplant process.*