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Transplant Times

Organ Transplant Awareness Program

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June 2023

Promoting Organ Donor Awareness; Supporting the Transplant Community

Support Group: Friday, June 2, 2023, 1:00 - 3:00 pm

4505 Chadwick Rd NW, Albuquerque 87120

505.948.4099

Greetings!

The New Mexico Kidney Walk this Saturday, information is in newsletter. The announcement of the winners of the American Liver Foundation poster contest and links to their presentations is also enclosed. I learned a lot about liver disease and liver transplants.

I finally graduated with my Bachelor in Social Work! I started at CNM and then went to New Mexico Highlands University's satellite branch in Rio Rancho. There was one episode of rejection and a quick trip to my transplant center when my white blood cells disappeared, but I managed to hang on! My plan is to continue to advocate for organ donation, the American Liver Foundation, and facilitate our support group.

Have a great summer! -Evelyn



Congratulations!



Dana Nighswonger	Heart Recipient	June 4, 2017	6 years
Cathy Walters	Heart Recipient	June 11, 2013	10 years
W. Houston Dougherty	Kidney Recipient	June 29, 2020	3 years



KIDNEY WALK

June 4



2023 New Mexico Kidney Walk

Sunday, June 4th

8:30am

North Domingo Baca Park

7520 Corona Ave NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113



Presenting Sponsors:



Other Local Sponsors:



Walgreens



Categories cover six areas of liver disease

Winners from the [American Liver Foundation's 2023 Liver Health Poster Competition](#) were announced today. This competition showcases posters and a brief video created by early career healthcare professionals from across the country on six areas of liver educational focus: [disparities in liver disease](#), [fatty liver disease](#), [liver cancer](#), [liver transplantation](#), [pediatric liver disease](#), and [rare liver disease](#). Competitors are tasked with translating complicated medical information into a poster and video which can be easily understood by patients or the public.

"Helping patients, families, caregivers and the public better understand liver disease is no easy task," said Lorraine Stiehl, Chief Executive Officer, American Liver Foundation. "Getting a diagnosis of liver disease can be very scary and it's so important to have the most up-to-date information available in a format that a lay audience can understand. That's why this poster competition is so important, and we are grateful to all the participants and congratulate this year's winners."

The 2023 Liver Health Poster Competition category winners are:

- Tanisha Ronnie, MD, Loyola University Medical Center for her presentation on [liver disparities](#). Dr. Ronnie was mentored by Jonah Rubin, MD, Loyola University Medical Center.
- Sachiko Oshima, MD, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, NC for her poster on [liver transplantation](#), Dr. Oshima was mentored by Kara Wegerman, MD, Duke University.
- Cindy Jiang, MD, Mount Sinai Kravis Children's Hospital, Department of Pediatrics for her poster on [pediatric liver disease](#). Dr. Jiang was mentored by Swati Antala, MD, Mount Sinai.
- Danny Kwon, MD, Loyola University Medical Center, for his poster on [rare liver disease](#). Dr. Kwon was mentored by Jonah Rubin, MD, Loyola University Medical Center.
- A team from Case Western Reserve University/Metrohealth for their submission on [liver cancer](#). The team included Benjamin Liu, MD, Samantha Mathialagan, MD, Linda He,

MD and Cindy Hsin-Ti, MD and they were mentored by Kamran Qureshi, MD, St. Louis University.

- A team from Houston Methodist won for their poster on [fatty liver disease](#), The team included Sneha Ajit, MD and Rajdeepsingh Waghela, MD and they were mentored by Sudha Kodali, MD, Houston Methodist.

In addition to the category winners, Sachiko Oshima, MD, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, NC received the People's Choice Award for her poster on liver transplantation, [Hep C NAT+ Liver Allografts: Shorter Wait, Similar Outcomes](#). The People's Choice Award is determined through voting by the public.

Senior liver experts guided the competitors throughout the poster/video creation process and posters were reviewed and scored by a formal panel of judges comprised of ALF National Medical Advisors, patients, caregivers and volunteers.

"American Liver Foundation's Liver Health Poster Competition is an excellent opportunity to showcase early career healthcare professionals all while providing mentorship from senior liver health experts," said Sudha Kodali, MD, MSPH, transplant hepatologist and medical director of the liver cancer program at Houston Methodist Hospital. "What I particularly love about this initiative is that the competition charges healthcare professionals with explaining complicated science and translating it for a lay audience—a skill that will be necessary throughout their medical careers. The residents and fellows that I have worked with for this competition thoroughly enjoy the entire process and I really appreciate ALF leading this very important initiative to help empower patients." Dr. Kodali has served as a Poster Competition mentor since 2021.

"When I was informed that I needed a transplant, I was overwhelmed," said Evelyn Rivera of New Mexico, a [liver transplant](#) patient and judge for the 2023 Liver Health Poster Competition. "Having educational materials that convey complex information in a way that is easy to understand would have been very helpful. This competition is important because it enables future professionals to communicate to patients with empathy."

To learn more about the 2023 Liver Health Poster Competition or view all the submissions, visit: alfevents.org/poster-competition. If you are a medical professional looking to become involved with American Liver Foundation, please visit liverfoundation.org/medical-professionals

About the American Liver Foundation

The American Liver Foundation is the nation's largest non-profit organization focused solely on promoting liver health and disease prevention. The American Liver Foundation achieves its mission in the fight against liver disease by funding scientific research, education for medical professionals, advocacy, information and support programs for patients and their families as well as public awareness campaigns about liver wellness and disease prevention. The mission of the American Liver Foundation is to promote education, advocacy, support services and research for the prevention, treatment and cure of liver disease. For more information visit liverfoundation.org or call: 1 800 GO LIVER (800-465-4837).





2023 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZipCode _____

Phone # _____ Cell _____ Phone _____

Email address for organization communications only _____

I would prefer to receive the newsletter electronically.

\$15 Individual membership \$25 Family membership Donation

All contributions are tax deductible

Please make checks payable and mail to: **PO Box 37217**

Albuquerque, NM 87176

Candidate: Organ/Tissue Type: _____ Date Listed _____ / _____ / _____

Recipient: Organ/Tissue Type: _____ Date Received _____ / _____ / _____

2nd transplant date -month day year: _____ / _____ / _____

Donor/member of a Donor Family: Donor Name _____ Organ/Tissue Type _____

Transplant date -month/day/year: _____ / _____ / _____

Friend of OTAP

Opportunities - Please check all that apply:

I would like to volunteer: promotional events _____ fundraising events _____

Personal information such as phone number _____ and address _____ may be shared with others.

I would like to be a reader for the scholarship award _____

Suggestions _____

Thank You for your support!



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OTAP Mission Statement

The mission of Organ Transplant Awareness Program is to promote organ donation and support transplant community members including transplant candidates, donor families, living organ donors, transplant recipients, and transplant families. We promote organ donation by participating in a variety of community events. Our support group meets once a month for those who need support or are seeking information about the transplant process.

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