



PKD FOUNDATION

Polycystic kidney disease

Join Your Community

Navigating polycystic kidney disease can be difficult, so finding a support group is essential. To further our mission of giving hope, the PKD Foundation established local groups called Communities. Through these Communities, patients, family members, and friends can support one another, spread awareness, and raise funds for PKD research.

- › **EACH COMMUNITY IS UNIQUE**, and our volunteers work to provide meaningful opportunities for connection, education, and support.
- › **VOLUNTEER ROLES** filled by local Community members, organize meetings and activities that connect their Communities to PKD Foundation education, support resources, fundraising opportunities, and more. *Check out those roles on the back of this page.*
- › **COMMUNITY EVENTS** come in all shapes and sizes. They might be a special presentation from a nephrologist, PKD expert, or dietitian. It might be in-person or virtual. The possibilities are endless.
- › **WALK FOR PKD**, hosted by many local Communities, is the PKD Foundation's signature fundraising event and the nation's largest gathering of the PKD community. Since 2000, these events have raised over \$36 million for PKD research.



FIND YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

pkdcure.org/community

WE GIVE HOPE. *We fund research, advocate for patients, and build a community for all impacted by PKD.*

Approved June 2025. © PKD Foundation.



Volunteer Roles

- › **WALK AMBASSADORS** are responsible for planning and executing their local Walk for PKD with support from PKD Foundation staff.
- › **PKD CONNECT AMBASSADORS** play a vital role in growing connections in local communities across the United States. In this role, volunteers provide support and education for PKD communities and serve as the front line for individuals new to the PKD Foundation by connecting their local community to Foundation programs and services.
- › **ADVOCACY CHAMPIONS** are part of the Advocacy Champions Network (ACN). They help further legislative priorities like federal research funding, legal protections, and more.
- › **PKD CONNECT PEER MENTORS** provide resources, guidance, motivation, and emotional support to an individual impacted by PKD. Peer mentors are familiar with the challenges of PKD and support and encourage others through sharing their own experiences.
- › **FUNDRAISING AMBASSADORS** identify local fundraising opportunities and facilitate fundraising that supports the PKD Foundation's mission.
- › **PEER AMBASSADORS** build new bridges between the PKD Foundation and previously underserved communities. Volunteers guide people of color through the Foundation's resources on disease management, treatment options, and navigating health care systems.
- › **THE COMMUNITY REACTION PANEL** uses their individual experiences with ARPKD or ADPKD as patients or caregivers to provide feedback and insight on predetermined topics of interest to the PKD community.
- › **PKD CONNECT INTERPRETERS** build a sense of community for non-English speaking patients and families. Volunteers will assist with translation and connect individuals with PKD Foundation programs and services.
- › **STEWARDSHIP AMBASSADORS** help the PKD Foundation share gratitude with donors. The Stewardship Ambassador thanks donors through various types of communication: phone calls, emails, hand-written notes, etc.



BECOME A VOLUNTEER
pkdcure.org/volunteer-with-us