

October 2011

DPC Patient Ambassador Call to Action
(Please complete by November 10th, 2011)

Call to Action #1 Background: Distribute Diabetes Educational Material at Your Facility

Diabetes is the leading cause of kidney failure in the U.S., so it is important to educate your community on its potentially devastating effects. November is American Diabetes Month which presents a great opportunity to educate yourself and others about the links between diabetes and kidney disease. In preparation, DPC would like you to help educate patients in your facility about health risks dialysis patients with diabetes might face. This month's Patient Ambassador monthly call will also focus on health risks for dialysis patients associated with diabetes.

Call to Action #1 Instructions:

DPC would like you to distribute the enclosed educational flyer to patients in your facility. The flyers can be copied and set in the waiting room, handed out to individual patients or tacked to a facility's information board. Please be sure to get the permission of your facility administrator before handing out or posting the materials.

Call to Action #2 Background: Become an ACT Team Member

Ambassadors Coordinating Together (ACT) teams are groups of Patient Ambassadors who live in the same state and work together to further DPC's advocacy agenda. The purpose of the program is to empower Patient Ambassadors by enabling them to coordinate and communicate with one another to take on their own education and advocacy efforts. Already in several states, Patient Ambassadors are continually emailing and coordinating with one another to amplify their voices across their states. The more Ambassadors are able to work together, the more likely we are to educate others and to make an impact on policies to improve the quality of life of kidney disease patients.

Right now, DPC has ACT teams in 12 states but has the goal of expanding the program to over 20 states by the end of the year. Current states include: Arizona, Northern California, Southern California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia. If you live in one of these states and are not currently on the team or reside in a state that does not yet have an ACT team, now is your chance to get involved!

Call to Action #2 Instructions

Joining an ACT team is simple: just provide a written note to DPC that it is OK to share your contact information with other Patient Ambassadors in your state, and we will work to get you signed up with your ACT team. **You can do so by simply filling in the top section of the "Reporting Form" on the back of this page.** Additionally, if you reside in a state that does not yet have a team, please indicate your interest in forming one there.

Please do not forget to complete and return the Call to Action Reporting Form by **November 10th, 2011**. You may also complete this form online at www.dialysispatients.org/patient-ambassador-resource-page.

Did You Know?
Patient Ambassadors have their own online resource website. Use the link at the bottom of the page to get started.