

MAX IS IN NEED OF A LIVING KIDNEY DONOR

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN DONATING?

If so, we want to thank you! We know this is a big "ask." We also know you may have questions and possibly concerns. We're sharing this flyer in the hope that we can provide you with the information you need to make an informed decision. *Know that even thinking about being Max's living kidney donor is a courageous step and we are grateful for you!*

UPDATES

Max was diagnosed with IGA Nephropathy in April 2021; he was only 18 years old and still in high school. He went to the ER due to a persistent headache in the back of his neck and his blood pressure was very high, creatine was at 9, and BUN was at 65. Sadly, his kidney function was at just 5%. Max spent 3 days in the ICU and another 3 days in the hospital. That is when he had a kidney biopsy which confirmed his IGA diagnosis. Max was then informed that a transplant was his only option. In March of 2022, Max was cleared for transplant and put on the kidney transplant waiting list. He has been on peritoneal dialysis since July 2021.

WHY A LIVING DONOR?

Waiting 3-5 years for a kidney from a deceased donor is not the best path forward for Max. With a living donor, Max can get his kidney transplant sooner. Research has shown that when patients receive a kidney from a living donor, the outcome is generally better. Dialysis is not an ideal solution as it can lead to further complications for Max.



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN DONATING?

YES! I'M INTERESTED

If you are interested in being Max's living donor, please [visit yourgiftworks.com/maxw](https://yourgiftworks.com/maxw) and complete the short contact form. A donor advocate will reach out to you within one business day to answer any questions you may have and will guide you through the next steps in the process.

YES! BUT I HAVE QUESTIONS & CONCERNS

Having questions is normal! We have a great resource available. Please [visit Max's Kidney website](https://yourgiftworks.com/maxw) and complete the contact form. A donor advocate named Laurie will reach out to you. Laurie is a living kidney donor who can answer any non-medical questions you may have, guide you through the process, and connect you to great resources.

NO, BUT I WANT TO HELP

Thank you! The best way you can help is by [following Max's Facebook page](https://yourgiftworks.com/maxw) and sharing posts from his page as much as possible. The more shares we get, the more people we can reach, and the better chance we will have of finding Max's courageous donor.

COMMON QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

WAS MAX'S FAMILY TESTED?

Unfortunately, most of Max's family cannot donate for health reasons. In some cases, the best living donor is one who is not a family member, even when family members do step forward to donate.

DO I NEED INSURANCE TO DONATE?

While Max's insurance will provide coverage for the donor, the donor needs to have their own health insurance in the rare event an unknown health issues comes up for the donor.

WHAT ABOUT MY EXPENSES?

While Max's insurance covers all costs related to the donation (for Max and the donor), there are expenses like travel, meals, and lost wages that Max's family can legally reimburse you for. There are also additional resources available to ensure you are not paying for anything out of pocket. We can provide more information on those resources.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS TO DONATE?

The following are pre-qualification requirements for living donation: must be between the age of 18-69 years old, must be healthy and free of major health problems such as high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, and obesity (BMI of 37 or less), and must be mentally and emotionally healthy.

HOW LONG IS THE RECOVERY PROCESS?

Living kidney donors are often able to return to work within 2 weeks, and fully heal within 6-8 weeks. After surgery, the donor's remaining kidney will also grow in size and function, allowing them to live normal life with just one kidney.

I HAVE NON-MEDICAL QUESTIONS ABOUT BECOMING A DONOR?

Visit Max's kidney website and complete the contact form. Within 1 business day, a donor advocate named Laurie will reach out to you. This is an excellent opportunity to speak with someone who has already donated a kidney and can not only answer your non-medical questions, but share more about their experience as a donor. If you have medical questions, we can connect you to the appropriate team member at the University of Utah Health.

WHAT HAPPENS IF MAX DOES NOT FIND A LIVING KIDNEY DONOR?

The ideal outcome is for Max is to find a living donor. He has already battled so much with his kidney disease that being on the kidney transplant waiting list for 3-5 years is simply not ideal. Long-term dialysis is also not ideal as it can lead to a variety of complications such as low blood pressure, injection site infection, and blood clots.



WHAT ELSE CAN I DO TO HELP?

1. Share Max's story with those you know. Send them the [link to his website](#) or share this brochure.
2. Follow [Max's Kidney Page on Facebook](#). This page will educate interested donors and allow us to reach more people. You can help by sharing Max's Facebook page with your family and friends. Doing so will make a huge difference.
3. "Like" and "Share" the posts on [Max's Facebook Page](#). The more the posts are shared, the more people we will reach, and the better chance we will have of finding Max's living kidney donor.

Please know that we are so grateful for your support. We appreciate your help, prayers, and kind words as Max continues his transplant journey.