

YNOTT

YOUTH NEEDING ORGANS AND TISSUE TRANSPLANTS

CSCC program helps Drake promote organ donations

In the summer of 2006 everything was looking up for Edward Drake. The now 23-year-old Toledo native was in pursuing his dream of playing college football at Eastern Michigan University, when he was suddenly rushed to the hospital during a routine physical.

Early signs of high blood pressure revealed a life-threatening condition: Drake's kidneys were failing. He began dialysis treatments the next day. The almost daily treatments continued for more than two years until October 2008. That's when an organ of a deceased donor was matched to Drake. He and his family rushed to Columbus for the lifesaving transplant.

Now recovering from the ordeal he has enrolled at Columbus State Community College to earn a Non-Profit Management Certificate. The Non-Profit Management Certificate, offered through Columbus State's Business Management department, is a 4-class certificate that walks you through the process of managing a nonprofit.

Using his knowledge from Columbus State, Drake has also set up a foundation to raise awareness of organ, tissue and eye donations. It is known as **“Youth Needing Organs and Tissue Transplants”** or **YNOTT** (*pronounced Why-Not*).



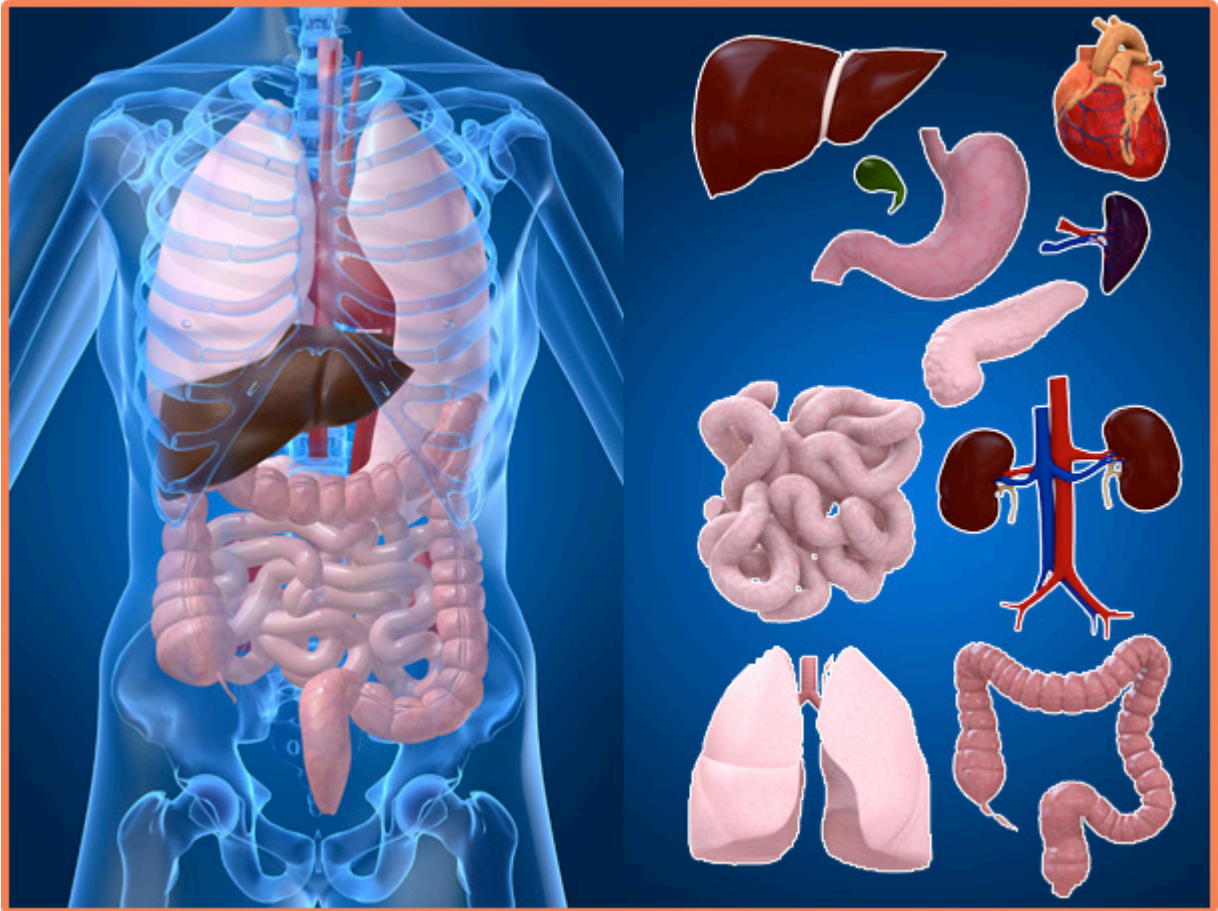
Edward Drake - Kidney donor recipient and founder of Ynott

When the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles learned of the story the agency hired a television production crew to follow Drake and document an average day in his life. The crew spent several hours on Columbus State's campus February 12 where they videotaped him in an exercise class he's taking as an elective.

The approximately eight-minute video will focus - in part - on Drake's foundation and his commitment to encourage drivers to sign organ donation cards. It will be shown to virtually all drivers' education classes in Ohio as part of a requirement that the courses include a section on organ donations.

He continues to receive support from individuals and groups including Lifeline of Ohio, an established organ donation association. Eventually, Drake says he will transfer back to a four-year college to pursue a bachelor's degree in Business.

In the meantime, he continues to promote his foundation in hopes he can give back by saving lives in the same way some anonymous donor helped save his.



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