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ChildrensNational.org

10/29/2020

Mr. Edward Drake II, Founder
YNOTT? Foundation

Dear Edward,

I am writing to express my sincerest appreciation for the generosity and support from the YNOTT? Foundation over the years. As you know, I have been a renal Social Worker at Children's National Hospital (CNH) since 2013. I provide psychosocial services and support to the pediatric and adolescent dialysis, kidney transplant and chronic kidney disease patients and their families. Since I have been in this role, it has been a pleasure to partner with you and YNOTT? Foundation to provide Holiday gift giveaways and school supply giveaways to our patients, many of whom are from lower socio-economic families or who are struggling with the overall challenges of managing their chronic illness. The look on the kids' and their siblings' faces when they receive a gift card or a toy is priceless. I'll tell you it goes a long way to brighten their day and motivate them in their fight to stay healthy and positive.

As a mentor, you have provided a vital resource to us. Being able to connect with our adolescents through your shared experience of being a kidney patient is something that our team treasures. Whenever we have a patient who is struggling emotionally or with adherence, we look for someone or something that can give them hope. For our most at-risk adolescent population, the YNOTT? Foundation has been that go-to resource.


I cannot tell you enough how exciting it is to have a local chapter. Partnering with Austin Lee, a product of our Nephrology Program here at CNH is awesome. Over the years, Austin has been supportive of many Donate Life programs here. He has been an inspiration to our patients and families. It warms my heart to see Austin's success and to see him giving back to this community. Despite the pandemic, Austin and the YNOTT? Foundation forged forward to raise funds and to strategically plan with our team, the safe collection and distribution of school supplies to our dialysis patients and their siblings again this year. With the economic impact this pandemic has caused, this was truly a blessing that our patients and families needed. I cannot thank you enough.

Our work is not done. Our patients continue their battles with kidney disease. Therefore, we must continue our support of them. Our patients returning to dialysis after failed transplants and our young adults going off to college need mentoring and guidance to stay safe and on track. As a health care professional, I need partners, like YNOTT?, to be an extension of our support

services, to meet with the patients and provide guidance and assistance while in the community, and to support them through successful transition as they move on to adult facilities.

On behalf of the Nephrology Care Team at Children's National Hospital, I thank you for your partnership and consistency, and I look forward to continuing our relationship in support of our patients and families.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heidi L. Colbert". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Heidi" being the most prominent.

Heidi L. Colbert, LICSW, CCTSW, NSW-C

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