

## DPC's 2025 Year in Review

*"I am proud to be part of Dialysis Patient Citizens and the impact we made in 2025. We helped more than 11,000 dialysis patients gain access to Medigap coverage through our state advocacy efforts. With new partnerships, continued dedication to advocacy, and organizational growth, we have strengthened our mission and expanded our reach. I am thankful for my fellow board members, DPC staff, partners, advocates, and most importantly, our fellow patients who really make what we do work. I look forward to what we will continue to accomplish in 2026."*

**Quiana Bishop**  
DPC Board President



### ***Advancing Dialysis Legislation at the Federal Level***

The bipartisan Restore Protections for Dialysis Patients Act (H.R. 2199/S. 1173) was introduced to ensure individuals with ESRD and their families retain equitable access to private insurance for up to 30 months. It now has 50 House cosponsors and 6 in the Senate. The Kidney Care Access Protection Act (H.R. 6214/S. 2730) is bipartisan, bicameral legislation to strengthen Medicare kidney care benefits, ensuring sustainable dialysis reimbursement, and supporting long-term payment pathways for new therapies and technologies. DPC promoted both bills by sharing over 23 patient videos with Congress, amplifying the effort via social media, and securing additional patient testimonials in local and state newspapers.



### ***Increasing Medigap Access at the State Level***

DPC's advocacy and leadership led to the passage of SB 292 in Nevada and HB 2516 in Texas. These laws expand access to affordable Medigap coverage for dialysis patients under 65, including a one-time 6-month open enrollment for current Medicare Part B enrollees. DPC is also working to advance legislation in 2026 in several states.

### ***Securing Transplant Reforms to Increase Dialysis Patient Access***

HRSA issued multiple orders to the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN), including directives to enact safety reforms and designate patient safety officers. Both Chambers of Congress held hearings and sent letters to the Administration to improve access to and transparency of OPTNs. A provision in the 2025 Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act also gives HHS explicit authority to collect and distribute OPTN registration fees to support operations.



### ***Expanding our State Advocacy Efforts***

DPC's State Advocacy Directors and Patient Ambassadors worked with legislators to advance Medigap, living donor protections, and kidney disease prevention, while building partnerships at national events like the NCSL Legislative Summit and Council of State Governments Annual Meeting.

### ***Securing a Shorter ICH CAHPS Survey At Last***

For almost a decade, DPC has advocated for a shorter In-center Hemodialysis Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (ICH CAHPS) questionnaire to address patient survey burden and declining survey response rates. DPC representatives previously served on Technical Expert Panels exploring bold revisions. This year CMS is updating the ICH CAHPS clinical measure to 39 questions, reducing the length of the current survey by 23 questions.



### ***Strengthening our Patient Advocacy Efforts through Grassroots Expansion***

We strengthened our grassroots foundation by launching monthly virtual Patient Ambassador meetings, keeping members connected with DPC. These meetings boosted confidence and advocacy readiness. We also welcomed 100+ new Ambassadors, starting a new Meet and Greet to ensure rapid engagement and onboard new advocates.



## *Continuing Community Health Workers Demonstration*

The first phase of the two-part Community Health Worker (CHW) kidney disease training project launched in August with a CKD curriculum, making 10 Illinois CHWs the first in the nation to receive this certificate. The CKD CHW training course is available online through the Illinois Public Health Association. The second phase is now under development to train CHWs on ESRD, including dialysis modalities, kidney transplantation, and how CHWs can help support their clients on their ESRD journey.

## *Bringing Social Media In-House*

DPC successfully brought its social media process in-house—enabling faster content creation, real-time publishing, and a more mission-aligned presence. The impact is clear: DPC has far surpassed our total organic views on YouTube and Facebook from all of 2024, with Facebook organic reach increasing sevenfold year over year.

**DPC EDUCATION CENTER  
Roundtable Talk Series**

Featuring DPC Staff,  
Ambassadors & Board Members

Thursday, Sept. 4  
at 1:00 PM ET  
On Zoom

Join us for an insightful  
conversation focusing on  
advocacy & innovation!



## *Launching New Roundtable Talks*

This year, we launched the DPC Education Center's Roundtable Talks, a monthly 30-minute series highlighting timely topics with rotating hosts and guests. Staff and Dr. Velma Scantlebury led discussions on insurance, Medigap advocacy, treatment options, our annual fly-in, and more. We look forward to continuing these thoughtful conversations on issues shaping our work.

## *Engaging in Public Policy Working Groups to Elevate the Patient Voice*

DPC state advocacy staff and patient leaders served on advisory bodies, including the State of Illinois Kidney Disease Prevention and Education Task Force, the Northwest Kidney Council, and the Kidney Disease State Advocacy Coalition. Their participation led to the recommendation that the state increase the number of Community Health Workers certified in kidney disease education to assist with raising awareness.



## *Organizing DPC's Annual Advocacy Day*

In July, DPC hosted our annual Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C., where we brought together patients, family members, and caregivers to meet with their Members of Congress to elevate the dialysis patient voice. This year we had 50 advocates attend, representing 24 states, who participated in over 80 Congressional meetings.

