



*The Voice Of All Kidney Patients*

Brenda Dyson  
*President*

Donald Dowe, MSW  
*Vice President*

Stephen Z. Fadem, MD, FACP  
*Vice President*

Kelly M. Mayo, MS  
*Treasurer*

Mary Heisick, MSW  
*Secretary*

*Directors at Large:*

Jess Arceneaux  
Vera Coleman-Foreman  
Joseph Cooperstein  
Ellie Durrett  
Amy L. Friedman, MD  
Richard S. Goldman, MD  
Edward T. Gray, MSW, MS  
Alice McCall, RN  
Jason Mikles  
Carl Nettleton  
Sam Pederson  
Thomas Peters, MD  
David O. Stapel  
Roberta Wager, MS, RN  
Joseph D. White

*Medical Advisory Board:*

Eli A. Friedman, MD  
*Chairman*

George Aronoff, MD  
Christopher Blagg, MD  
John Bower, MD  
Carolyn Cacho, MD  
Clive Callender, MD  
Stephen Z. Fadem, MD, FACP  
Amy L. Friedman, MD  
Thomas Golper, MD  
Frederick Kaskel, MD, PhD  
Nathan Levin, MD  
Keith Norris, MD  
Thomas Peters, MD  
Jay Wish, MD

Kris Robinson  
*Executive Director/CEO*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 17, 2006

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Diana Narcisi  
Program Coordinator  
(800) 749-2257  
[dnarcisi@aakp.org](mailto:dnarcisi@aakp.org)

**AAKP HOSTS NEW PATIENT EDUCATION PROGRAM**

**TAMPA, Fla.** – The American Association of Kidney Patients (AAKP) is pleased to announce the launch of a new patient education program, *Kidney Beginnings: Live*. This interactive program educates those who are at risk for kidney disease or who have recently been diagnosed.

AAKP is hosting programs in cities throughout the United States beginning June 2006. Attendees can expect to learn information regarding: the role of the kidneys and how to care for them, conditions that can lead to chronic kidney disease (CKD) such as diabetes and hypertension, side effects and challenges faced by CKD patients, diet management and much more.

Each program includes presentations given by local healthcare professionals and offers attendees the unique opportunity to share their experiences and concerns with fellow kidney patients.

*Kidney Beginnings: Live* is AAKP's newest addition to the Kidney Beginnings educational series which includes *Kidney Beginnings: The Electronic Newsletter*, *Kidney Beginnings: A Patient's Guide to Living with Reduced Kidney Function* and *Kidney Beginnings: The Magazine*. Each of these publications focuses on the needs of the CKD population.

“With more than eight million Americans living with reduced kidney function, AAKP understands the importance in educating the public on this widespread chronic illness,” said Kris Robinson, Executive Director/CEO, “we are pleased to have developed a series of programs designed to inform and empower kidney disease patients and their families.”

- more -

American Association of Kidney Patients  
3505 E. Frontage Rd., Suite 315 • Tampa, FL 33607  
800-749-2257 • 813-636-8100 • Fax 813-636-8122  
Web site: [www.aakp.org](http://www.aakp.org) • E-mail: [info@aakp.org](mailto:info@aakp.org)

## AAKP Hosts New Patient Education Program...2

Brenda Dyson  
*President*

Donald Dowe, MSW  
*Vice President*

Stephen Z. Fadem,  
MD, FACP  
*Vice President*

Kelly M. Mayo, MS  
*Treasurer*

Mary Heisick, MSW  
*Secretary*

*Directors at Large:*

Jess Arceneaux  
Vera Coleman-Foreman  
Joseph Cooperstein  
Ellie Durrett  
Amy L. Friedman, MD  
Richard S. Goldman, MD  
Edward T. Gray, MSW, MS  
Alice McCall, RN  
Jason Mikles  
Carl Nettleton  
Sam Pederson  
Thomas Peters, MD  
David O. Stapel  
Roberta Wager, MS, RN  
Joseph D. White

###

*Medical Advisory Board:*

Eli A. Friedman, MD  
*Chairman*

George Aronoff, MD  
Christopher Blagg, MD  
John Bower, MD  
Carolyn Cacho, MD  
Clive Callender, MD  
Stephen Z. Fadem, MD,  
FACP  
Amy L. Friedman, MD  
Thomas Golper, MD  
Frederick Kaskel, MD, PhD  
Nathan Levin, MD  
Keith Norris, MD  
Thomas Peters, MD  
Jay Wish, MD

Kris Robinson  
*Executive Director/CEO*

For more information on *Kidney Beginnings: Live* or to find program locations, please visit the AAKP Web site at [www.aakp.org](http://www.aakp.org).

*AAKP is the voluntary, patient organization, which for more than 35 years, has been dedicated to improving the lives of fellow kidney patients and their families by helping them deal with the physical, emotional and social impact of kidney disease. The programs offered by AAKP inform and inspire patients and their families to better understand their condition, adjust more readily to their circumstances, and assume more normal, productive lives in their communities.*