



TRIO Greater Cleveland Quarterly Newsletter

Winter, 2019

President's Message

As we leave the warmth of summer and enter into the cooler weather and the upcoming holidays, your Board of Directors continues monthly meetings to push forward our mission to improve the quality of lives touched by the miracle of transplantation through support, advocacy, education, and awareness.

Our collaborations with multiple Greater Cleveland Transplant Organizations continue as we build and strengthen relationships and opportunities for those within our transplant community. Leaders from the following organizations have entered into this collaboration with our Greater Cleveland Chapter: Transplant House of Cleveland, Team Ohio, Kidney Foundation of Ohio, MOTTEP, Lifebanc, Cleveland Clinic Transplant Center, and the University Hospitals Transplant Center. Please keep your eyes peeled for ongoing communications regarding our progress and various activities occurring across our area.

For questions, comments, or ideas, please contact Chris Shay-Downer @ 216-644-6747.

Meet Gage Georgeff TRIO Board Trustee!!!

Gage, tell us a little bit about yourself.

On December 14, 2009, I received a double lung transplant at the Cleveland Clinic due to Pulmonary Fibrosis (PF) brought on by Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA). I contracted RA and PF in 1990 at the age of 25 when I was told I had only 43% of my lung function available. I continued to work at UPS sorting packages and as a Delivery Driver until 2004. At that point, oxygen was added to my treatment plan. I continued working on oxygen under The American Disabilities Act for five years sorting packages. In June of 2009, I was evaluated for lung transplant. After being accepted for transplant, I was listed on October 21, 2009 and received my transplant on December 14, 2009.

What attracted you to TRIO and to become a board member?

What brought me to TRIO was an interest in helping other transplants patients transition into their life after transplant.

What do you like to do for fun and relaxation?

For hobbies I enjoy traveling, being outdoors, American history, reading, and learning new things daily. I enjoy spending time with my family and finding way to inspire others.



Upcoming Transplant Events

Donor Sabbath Observance

Saturday, November 9, 2019

12:30p – 2:30p

Strongsville United Methodist Church
13500 Royalton Road
Strongsville, OH 44136

UH Transplant Center and Kidney Foundation OH

Professional Learning Series Webinar

November 20, 2019, 8:30 – 9:45am

“Recovery of Organs from Drug Overdose Deaths”

Register at kfohio.org or 216-771-2700

Transplant House of Cleveland Dinner

January, 2020 - Date to be announced

If you'd like to contribute and/or attend, please contact us @ triocleveland@triocleveland.org or by calling 216-644-6747

TRIO's After-Holiday Celebration & Annual Meeting

Saturday, February 29, 2020

1:30p-3:30p

Dino's Restaurant, Pine Ridge Country Club
Wickliffe, OH

RSVP by email: triocleveland@triocleveland.org or by calling 216-644-6747

Donor Life Night with the Cavs

Saturday, February 29, 2020 - 8pm

Indiana Pacers at Cleveland Cavaliers

Rocket Mortgage Field house

Discounted tickets to be available soon!!

World Kidney Day

March 12, 2020 - More info to come

Donate Life Month, April

Transplant Games of America

July 17-22, 2020

The Meadowlands, New Jersey

See Team OH article to learn more!



How much do you know about Team Ohio and their Transplant Athletes??

Team OH is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization comprised of transplant recipients and families, living donors, donor families, as well as transplant professionals and advocates. Our mission is to promote organ, eye, and tissue donation by celebrating the success of transplantation and honoring donors and their families who provided the gift of life and sight. Team Ohio accomplishes this through participation in the Donate Life Transplant Games of America and other events that raise awareness about donation and promote enrollment on the Ohio Donor Registry.

The **Donate Life Transplant Games** is a multi-sport festival event produced by the Transplant Life Foundation for individuals who have undergone life-saving transplant surgeries. Competition events are open to living donors, organ transplant recipients, bone marrow, corneal and tissue transplant recipients. New for the Transplant Games in New Jersey July 17-22, 2020, Donor Families will be permitted to compete in a limited number of competition events. More than an athletic event, the Donate Life Transplant Games highlight the critical importance of organ, eye, and tissue donation, while celebrating the lives of organ donors and recipients. For more information on the Donate Life Transplant Games, visit www.transplantgamesofamerica.org.

If you live in Ohio or were transplanted in Ohio, we would love for you to be a part of our Team Ohio family. Team Ohio doesn't just celebrate the Transplant Games together, but we spend time together outside of the games to promote organ, eye, and tissue donation and make life-long friendships. Team Ohio also works to raise money to provide apparel to team members and to offset the costs of attending the games for our participants. For more information, visit www.teamohio4life.org or email info@teamohio4life.org.

Team Ohio Contacts:

Tricia Fliehm
Board President
614-905-2170

Tonya Gomez, Team Manager
419-572-6301
Double Lung Transplant Recipient 5/25/04

TRIO Annual Fundraiser: Razzles, 9/27/19

Thank you all who supported and attended our TRIO Greater Cleveland Annual Fundraiser at Razzles this year! Approximately 70 were in attendance to celebrate our chapter's 30th anniversary with food, fun, and fellowship. Ticket sales, raffle ticket sales for many donated raffle items and 50/50 raffles resulted in a successful event. We are already discussing our event for next year and would appreciate your feedback and ideas!



Donate Life Night with the Cavs



Need a cool Christmas gift or just want to have some fun?? What else would you do fun on leap year day??? Wear your blue and green to help us raise awareness around organ, eye, and tissue donation and transplantation! A link will be available soon to purchase discounted tickets for this home game at Rocket Mortgage Field house against the Indiana Pacers. This event is a collaborative effort with other Greater Cleveland Transplant Organizations mentioned in the President's Message. With an opportunity to be acknowledged on the court before the game, and the recent renovations including a new main concourse and 700 televisions, Rocket Mortgage Field house guarantees a fun night with friends.

For any comments or inquiries, contact TRIO Greater Cleveland Chapter Board of Trustees:

Email: triocleveland@triocleveland.org or President Chris Shay-Downer cell: 216-644-6747

Or by US mail: PO Box 22333, Cleveland, OH 44122

www.triocleveland.org / Facebook: @TRIOGreaterCleveland