

2026 MICHIGAN KIDNEY WALK

at
the **DETROIT ZOO**

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026

Frequently Asked Questions



8

FUNDRAISING

Q: How do funds raised at the Kidney Walk benefit the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan?

A: Almost 88 cents of each dollar raised benefits the NKFM's prevention programs and patient services. For information on the programs and services the NKFM offers to the people of Michigan, please visit nkfm.org.

Q: Is there a minimum donation or pledge goal I must meet?

A: Each walker over the age of 12 is asked to raise at least \$50 in order to offset the cost of admission tickets, entertainment, parking, etc. Walkers aged 3-12 are asked to raise \$15. Walkers 2 and under are free. Our hope is that each walker will play a significant role in helping us reach our fundraising goal of \$450,000. If each walker raised an average of \$100, we would surpass our goal, and be able to provide even more programs and services to the people of Michigan living with chronic kidney disease.

Q: Can children participate in the Walk? Do they need to raise money?

A: The Kidney Walk is a family event for all ages and everyone is invited to participate. The minimum donation expectation for the Kidney Walk at the Detroit Zoo applies to children ages 3 and up. With help from an adult they have the potential to be great fundraisers.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Q: Do I have to register?

A: Yes. We ask all walkers, regardless of age, whether walking individually or as a team, to register online prior to the Walk. This will help us in planning for the best Kidney Walk experience. When you register online, you are automatically assigned your own personal walk page and a Facebook link which is designed to facilitate your fundraising efforts. Facebook: please use the link that is provided to you when you register. This will insure that all donations made in support of your efforts will be automatically credited to your Walk page. If you use your personal Facebook account we will be unable to credit you for those donations as we don't have the ability to access them.

[REGISTRATION GUIDE](#) Click here for more details on how to register

Q: I walked last year. Do I have to sign up this year?

A: Yes, but the registration site will remember your username from last year when registering. You will need to enter your password from last year, and your personal profile information from last year will appear. Having registration issues? Please contact: Max Marriott Green at mmarriottgreen@nkfm.org or Karen Miller at kmiller@nkfm.org.

Q: Is there a deadline to register?

A: Yes. You may register online at www.kidneywalk.org/detroitzoo through 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 13, 2026 . Note – credit card and Facebook donations can be made after registration has closed. Please bring a copy of any donations made after the close of registration with you when you check in so you get credit for these donations at that time.

Q: How do I join a team?

A: To join a team go to www.kidneywalk.org/detroitzoo. Click the button on the left hand side of the page – Register - and follow the instructions.

Q: How can I see who is on my team?

A: Log in to your personal page dashboard, and click on the “My Team” tab. This will list all registered members of your team.

Q: How can I get a brochure and Walk collection envelope?

A: Please contact Lisa Schutz Jelic at lschutz@nkfm.org to obtain Walk materials.

FUNDRAISE ONLINE

Q: How can I fundraise online?

A: Once you register online, you can access your personal page by using your password. This page is a quick and effective way to reach out to your friends and family to ask them to support your walk efforts. Customize your page with a personal message, photos or video and email. It’s a great way to offer donors the immediate opportunity to support your efforts by making a credit card donation online. On average, walkers who ask for donations by email raise eight times more than walkers who don’t use email for their fundraising efforts. The personal contacts you upload will not be accessed by Neon Fundraise nor NKFM staff. It is only available for you to use as a fundraising resource.

Q: How can I fundraise through Facebook?

A: First, make sure you are registered for the Kidney Walk. If you are not yet registered, visit [KidneyWalk.org/Detroit Zoo](http://KidneyWalk.org/DetroitZoo). To start fundraising, log in to your personal account. Once you log in, go your Walk Center In the Walk Center, clock the “Go Social” tab In the “Social” tab, click “Facebook Fundraiser” In the “Facebook Fundraiser” section, click “Create a Facebook Fundraiser”. Note this will open a new Facebook tab Follow the prompts to set up your Facebook fundraiser.

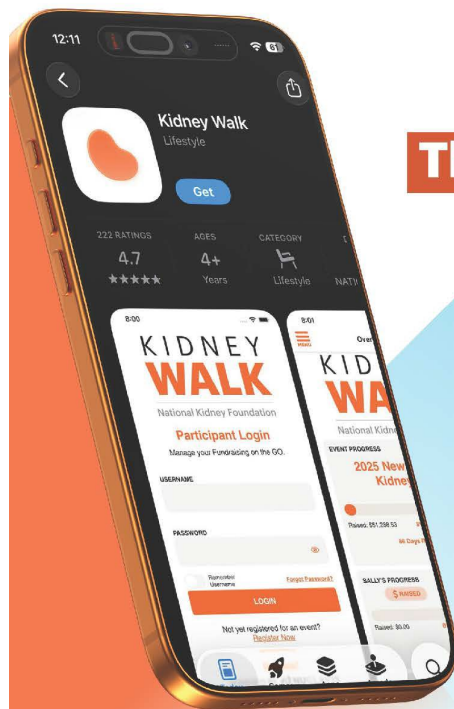
Become a fan of the NKFM on Facebook to hear the latest Walk news. Please visit www.facebook.com/KidneyMI.

There are also Facebook pages for each of the Kidney Walks, which can easily be accessed by searching for the name of the Walk when logged into your personal Facebook account. When you register online, you are automatically assigned your own personal walk page and a Facebook link which is designed to facilitate your fundraising efforts. Facebook: please use the link that is provided to you when you register. This will insure that all donations made in support of your efforts will be automatically credited to your Walk page. If you use your personal Facebook account we will be unable to credit you for those donations as we don't have the ability to access them.

Download the **Kidney Walk app** on your cell phone. This app offers walkers several registration, donor and fundraising options that you can utilize from you cell phone. Log in with your Kidney Walk username and password.



KIDNEY WALK



The Kidney Walk App

Features include:

- Fundraising tools like text messages and QR codes
- Donation notifications
- Activity tracking
- Mobile check deposit
- Event check-in on walk day
- And more!

Download the app today and make every step count!



Q: Are there prizes?

A: Yes! All walkers individually raising \$100 or more are eligible to receive a Kidney Walk T-Shirt (available to pick up the day of the Walk). Those raising \$1,000 or more will earn a prize certificate redeemable online 4-6 weeks after the Walk.

Q: Can I turn in my donations prior to the day of the Walk?

A: We recommend turning in your donations prior to the day of the Walk. This can be accomplished by:

- Mailing donations (no cash please) to the NKFM. Please include a note indicating who should receive credit for the donation(s). It's not necessary to send them at the same time. You can mail them in as you receive them.
- Bank Days. Turn in donations and pick up Zoo admission tickets, Kidney Walk T-Shirt voucher(s) and Champions bracelets* at one of our Bank Days to be held close to the Walk.
- ** Champions bracelets (purple) are provided to those on dialysis, kidney transplant recipients and kidney donors. This bracelet identifies our walkers who are eligible to enjoy kidney friendly food, special gift and other surprises in the Champions Tent. There will be another Food Tent that offers snacks and beverages for all other walkers.

If you are unable to make one of these Bank Days, you will need to turn in your donations and pick up admission tickets, etc. the morning of the Walk.

*Team Captains – It's recommended you collect your team members' cash and check donations and turn them in prior to the Walk at one of the Bank Days. Bank Days will eliminate the need for you and your team to check in at registration the morning of the Walk as you can also pick up Admission Tickets and Kidney Walk T-Shirt vouchers to distribute to team members prior to the day of the Walk.

Matching Gifts – Double the Donation

Encourage donors to check with their employer to see if they have a Matching Gifts program which matches donations made by their employees. Please click on the following link to find companies that match employee gifts <https://www.kidney.org/ways-to-give/matching-gift>

Fundraising Opportunity ~

The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan (NKFM) is ready to support your fundraising efforts through the sale of the NKFM's Michigan Kidney Walk raffle tickets. Walkers will receive credit for their ticket sales (this will be added to the seller's (walker) fundraising total).

Raffle Ticket Details ~

- A total of 5,000 tickets have been printed and are available for purchase.
- All tickets are final. No refunds.
- The purchaser must be 18 years of age or older.
- Tickets are available for purchase for \$5 each.
- Tickets will not be sold on the day of the Walk.

While walkers are not responsible for pre-paying for the tickets that they wish to sell, they are responsible for turning in all sold ticket stubs, money and unsold tickets. They must be turned in by **Thursday, April 30, 2026.**

The raffle offers purchasers the opportunity to choose from one of three prizes listed on the tickets. Purchaser must choose one prize on each ticket.

Prize Information ~

Mackinac Island Getaway - Grand Hotel Bed and Breakfast package includes a two (2) night stay (1 room for 2 people) at the Grand Hotel. Redeemable between May 1 – June 30 or August 9 – October 25, 2026. Not valid on weekends. Breakfast both days for two (2). Includes tax, local assessment, and baggage handling charges.

This package is non-transferable and non-refundable. Subject to availability with a Sunday -Thursday arrival/departure pattern. Package does not include lunch, dinner, or incidental charges such as cocktails, transportation to and from Mackinac Island, recreation charges etc.

Meijer Gift Card (\$500) - No expiration date.

Grand Rapids Getaway – Grand Rapids Getaway package includes overnight accommodations for two (2) for one (1) night at The JW Marriot Grand Rapids, breakfast for two (2) in Margaux and complimentary self or valet parking. Plus dinner at a local restaurant for two (2). Restrictions and blackout dates apply. Certificate can't be split and redeemable in full

Prize Drawing ~

- The raffle prize winners will be drawn at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 17, 2026, at the Detroit Zoo (during the Kidney Walk).
- All purchased ticket stubs will be placed in three separate raffle barrels (one for each prize). One ticket stub will be drawn at random from each of the three barrels.
- Need not be present to win.

To obtain tickets or for more information please contact: Kathy McGrath at kmcgrath@nkfm.org

BANK DAYS SCHEDULE

To avoid waiting in line at Registration the morning of the Kidney Walk, participants are encouraged to visit one of the following locations to drop off walk envelopes containing money, pick up zoo admission tickets, Kidney Walk T-shirt vouchers (for those raising individually \$100 or more), and purple Champions' wristbands (for those who are on dialysis, kidney recipients, or kidney donors).

*Team Captains or a designated representative can pick up admission tickets and other materials on behalf of their entire team.

Wednesday, May 6, 2026

2:00pm – 5:30pm

Greenfield Health Systems

30100 Telegraph Road, 2nd Floor

CCS Ambulatory Pharmacy Conference Room A

(park at the west entrance)

Bingham Farms, MI 48025

Thursday, May 7, 2026

3:00pm – 6:00pm

GHS Taylor Dialysis

24565 Haig Rd.

Taylor, MI 48180

Monday, May 11, 2026

4:00pm – 6:00pm

Civic Center Library

1 City Square

Warren, MI 48093

Located in Warren City Hall

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

2:30pm – 4:30pm

Hema-Tec

1332 Anderson Road

Clawson, MI 48017

WALK DETAILS

Sunday, May 17, 2026

The Detroit Zoo | Royal Oak

Registration 7:00 AM | Walk 8:45 AM

Walk Festivities 7:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Featuring:

- Zoo Admission
 - Free Parking
 - Champion's Tent for people on dialysis, with a kidney transplant, or a living donor and their caregivers featuring healthy food and giveaways
 - Face painting and other interactive activities for kids
 - Free Food and Drinks
 - Leisurely stroll through the Detroit Zoo
 - Stay until the Zoo closes at 5 PM!
- Much More

Q: What happens if it rains? Will we still walk?

A: The Kidney Walk is a rain or shine event.

Q: How long is the walk?

A: We invite walkers to take a leisurely stroll through the Zoo, enjoying the sights and sounds of the Zoo. Walkers can stay until the Zoo closes at 5:00 p.m. that day. For those who prefer to follow a marked route, the Walk offers a approximately one mile in length, marked, and non-competitive route.

Q. Will food and beverages be provided?

A: Food and beverages will be available for all walkers, thanks to our generous sponsors. Kidney friendly food will be served in the Champions Tent (Champions are those who are on dialysis, have a kidney transplant, or a kidney donor).

THE DAY OF THE WALK

Park (parking is covered by your admission ticket) and proceed to the Registration Tent located outside the front gates of the Zoo.

Registration/Check-In: 7:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. All walkers must have an admission ticket in order to participate in the Walk. The Registration Tent is located outside the main entrance of the Detroit Zoo.

Zoo gates opens to our walkers: 7:30 a.m. We will be unable to provide admission tickets to those arriving at the Zoo after 9:30 a.m. as they are only valid from 7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

If you have received a Kidney Walk T-Shirt voucher, please proceed to the Incentives table (please look for the banner). This is where you can pick up your shirt from 7:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Sorry we are unable to mail them so please visit the Incentives table before the Walk starts.

If you have Pre-Registered and don't have an admission ticket. Please check in at the Registration Tent.

- Have donations of checks and cash? Please turn them in using the Walk Collection envelope. The NKFM will have a list of your online donations which we will confirm at the time you check-in.
- Did all of your fundraising online? We will confirm your online donations at the time you check-in.
- Once you have checked in – enjoy the festivities and get ready to walk!

If you have not registered prior to the day of the Walk. Please check in at the Registration Tent.

- Those who did not register online or missed the registration deadline (5:00 p.m. - Wednesday, May 13, 2026), please visit the Registration tent. We will register you that morning.
- Complete the Walk Collection envelope.
- Present your donations.
- At that time, you will receive your admission ticket, and if applicable, Kidney Walk T-Shirt (those individually raising \$100 or more) and Champions Bracelet (if that applies to you).
- Once you have registered, show your admission ticket at the Zoo's front gate, proceed to the Walk's start, enjoy the festivities and get ready to walk!

If you already have your admission ticket etc. because you picked them up at one of the Bank Days you don't need to stop in at the Registration Tent.

Please go to the entrance to the Zoo, show them your admission ticket and proceed to the start of the Walk to enjoy the festivities.

If you need additional information or have questions please contact: Lisa Schutz Jelic at lschutz@nkfm.org or Kathy McGrath at kmcgrath@nkfm.org.

Thank you so much for joining us at the 2026 Michigan Kidney Walk at the Detroit Zoo.
We can't wait to see you there!