

Living Kidney Donor Sought for Jeff Blumenfeld, NASJA President

Veteran snowsports writer Jeff Blumenfeld from Boulder, Colo., needs our help. After a 13-year health battle, he learned recently that he will need a kidney transplant from a living donor, otherwise the wait from a deceased donor is five years at least.

Jeff has been committed to helping others for his entire career. He's been to Nepal on two cataract missions, volunteered in Antarctica, and wrote two books—one on voluntourism, the other on expedition funding. He volunteers as president of the North American Snowsports Journalists Association (NASJA), chairs the Rocky Mountain chapter of The Explorers Club, and is a long-time board member of the leading 9/11 victims' advocacy group. For 27 years, he's supported exploration through a free newsletter and website: expeditionnews.com. He's also written for the NSAA Journal, *Ski Magazine*, *X-C Skier*, *Skiing History*, and in Colorado: *Boulder magazine*, *Travel Boulder*, and *Elevation Outdoors*.

To help Jeff secure a kidney transplant, you don't need to be an exact match. Your donation can kick off a paired exchange. If you or someone you know might be able to help, start with this confidential questionnaire from UC Health Transplant Center in Denver:

UCHealthlivingdonor.org

Jeff's Medicare pays the donor's medical expenses, including a full physical and lab tests to ensure the donor is healthy.

Jeff has passed a battery of tests at University of Colorado Health, and has also been registered with the Miami Transplant Institute, and New York-Presbyterian Weill Cornell Medicine Transplant Center. He's also been accepted into the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS).

For information from the National Kidney Foundation on being a living donor see:

Kidney.org/transplantation/livingdonor

Being a living donor is low risk, according to the Mayo Clinic:

<https://www.newswise.com/articles/mayo-clinic-study-confirms-living-kidney-donor-surgery-is-low-risk-for-most-patients>

Please share this living donor search with your social network and let's help Jeff keep up the good work.