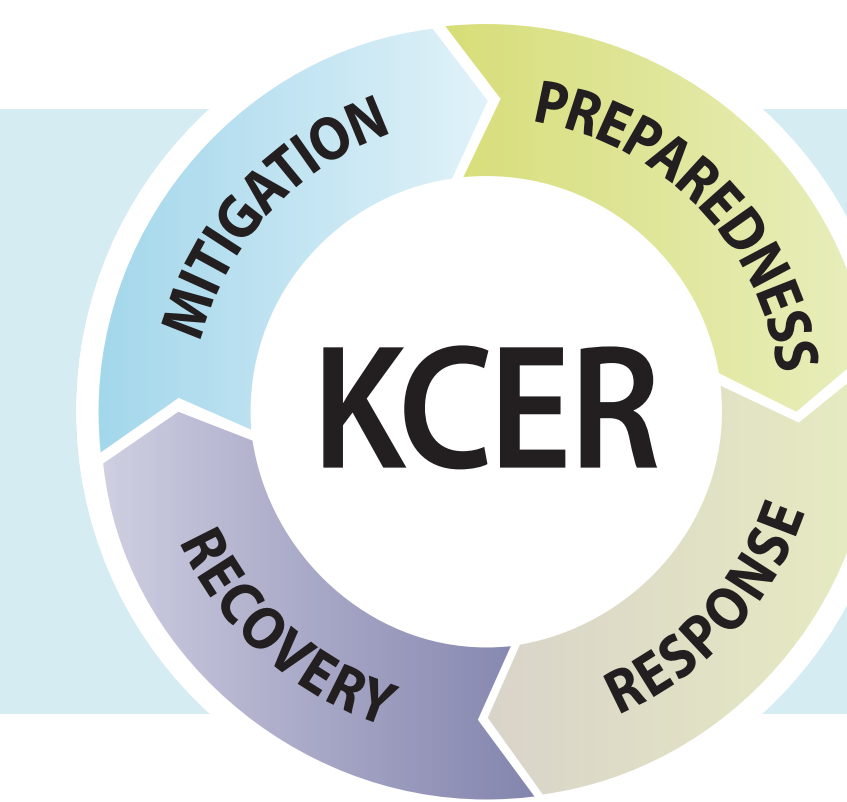# Disaster Resources Created by Patients for Patients

KCER

Kidney Community Emergency Response

The involvement of patient subject matter experts (SMEs) in the National KCER Patient and Family Engagement Learning and Action Network (N-KPFE-LAN) ensures that the patient voice is incorporated into all KCER activities and encourages a patient perspective for emergency and disaster preparation. N-KPFE-LAN members collaborated to create several patient-centered resources during 2022 and 2023.

KCER Communications Plan
Wallet-sized resource designed to assist dialysis and kidney transplant patients with having vital information on hand in the event of an emergency or disaster.

Dialysis Patient Go-Bag
Dialysis and kidney transplant patients can use this resource to create a kit with basic items that may be needed in the event of an emergency.

Dialysis Patient Evacuation Resource
Educational resource for dialysis patients on the importance of following evacuation orders issued by emergency officials.

KCER's Response to Hurricane Ian
(September 26–October 14, 2022)
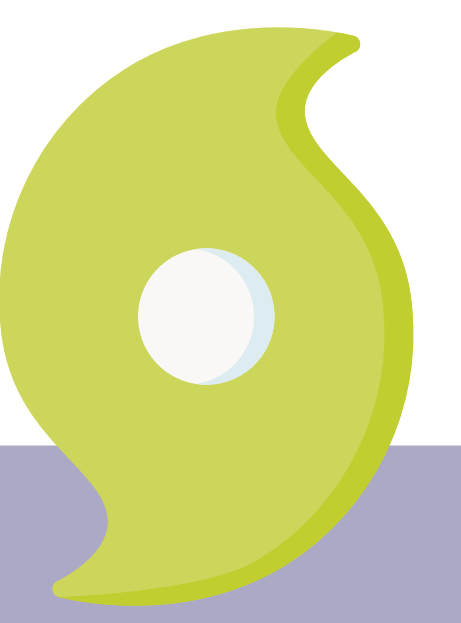
Impact on ESRD Community

Dialysis Patients	**~5,000**
Dialysis Facilities	**110**

Key Issues
- Patients in evacuation zones did not evacuate when advised by emergency officials to do so, leading to patients requiring evacuation and possibly going many days with no access to treatment.
- Ongoing concerns with accessing reliable transportation alternatives pre- and post-event.

Best Practices
- Providers used texting applications to contact all patients, check on their status, and provide links to the emergency diet.
- Provider staging of supplies was secured prior to the storm, such as generators and water tankers, as well as pre-established contracts for water and fuel tankers in the impacted states.
- Network and provider pre-established contacts and existing relationships with response partners (i.e., emergency management, healthcare coalitions, state survey agencies, etc.) allowed for a more coordinated response to the event.