Abstract Form

Abstract is to be typed in a **10 point** font/typeface (Times Roman preferred) and **must fit** in the space below; additional pages **may not** be submitted.

FOR REVIEWER USE

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Reviewer's signature

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Date: _____

Time: _____

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TITLE: INCREASING LIVING KIDNEY DONATION IN AFRICAN AMERICANS:

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY:

As of November 1996, UNOS reported that there are 34,240 waiting for a cadaveric kidney transplant, of these 35% are African Americans (AA). AA Receive 26% of donor kidneys which come primarily from Caucasians, only 12% of cadaveric donors are AA. There also is a problem with living donation (LD) because only 13% of LDs are from AA patients (UNOS). Therefore, for AA patients to receive a more equitable share of kidney transplants not only must cadaveric organ donation be further encouraged, but LD also must be stimulated.

We have developed a program that has resulted in a higher LD rate among AA. The program emphasizes LD from the initial patient contact, addresses obstacles by becoming the donor requestor, establishes individualized and peer group counseling to address fears and other disincentives, and formally recognizes LD through pictures, videos, and an annual award program during National Organ & Tissue Awareness Week.

DESCRIPTION OF EVALUATION (if completed, provide results):

Through a concerted educational program, we are addressing the organ shortage problem by stimulating more LDs in our recipient population. The same techniques applied to the AA groups has resulted in increasing their LD rate to a 5 year average of 36.8% compared to the current national average of 27%. We conclude that a focused comprehensive education program is effective in increasing the LD rate, regardless of race.

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