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#KIDNEY4BO

ABOUT KIDNEY4BO

Mission: to find Bo a kidney

Kidney4Bo is a digital communications campaign that was launched on April 10, 2020. Bolton "Bo" Harris is 55 and lives in Provincetown Massachusetts with his husband, Paul Breen. They have been together 27 years.

As a lung cancer survivor with type one diabetes, the years battling these illnesses have not been kind to Bo's kidneys. During a routine checkup, his physician noticed some abnormalities in his lab results. His kidneys were starting to fail. He was put on the United Network of Organ Sharing's (UNOS) nationwide kidney transplant waiting list shortly thereafter. He remains active on this list until a living or deceased donor is found.

Therefore, the mission for Kidney4Bo is simple: to find Bo a kidney.

While Bo waits for this life-saving procedure, he may also have to go on dialysis, something he is hoping to avoid. Though this is a well-known treatment option for those with end-stage renal failure, people who receive a living-donor transplant without dialysis see significantly better health outcomes and live longer.

Though Bo has been through many medical challenges over the years, it was the community aspect of kidney disease that led the couple towards starting an online initiative. They realized that this time, they'd have to be more open, including others in their search for a donor match from the start.

As Bo states, "I was prepared for the medical aspect. I was not prepared for how much other people have to be involved. Kidney disease is truly not something you can 'fix' on your own. This experience has really opened my eyes. I realized I'd have to take a different approach this time. It's also encouraged me to give back while I wait."

Bo is registered at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. For more on registering to be his living donor, please visit www.kidney4bo.com.

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