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## Home Dialysis Central Discussion Group Reaches New Milestone

*Madison, Wisconsin*—The closed Home Dialysis Central Facebook discussion group now has more than 4,000 members, a milestone that demonstrates the value of online community support and information sharing. Administered by the non-profit **Medical Education Institute (MEI)**, the group welcomes dialyzers, care-partners, and professionals who are interested in the lifestyle and advantages of home treatments.

The group supports people who may be new or curious about peritoneal dialysis or home hemodialysis, as well as experienced home dialyzers and professionals who have specific questions. A benefit of the online community is the near constant activity, 24 hours a day and 365 days a year, ensuring that there is always someone online to lend advice, share experience, provide support, or help in an emergency.

MEI Executive Director, Dori Schatell, founded the group 5 years ago, and interacts with members daily: *“I learn a tremendous amount from our members, and share information and resources to help them succeed at home. The group really has a positive, supportive tone, and I’ve seen it help people through the challenging transition from training to fitting home dialysis into their day-to-day lives.”*

In addition to the Home Dialysis Central discussion group, MEI also administers Facebook and Twitter pages for Life Options, Kidney School, the book *Help, I Need Dialysis!*, as well as MEI.org, and encourages those interested in kidney disease, treatment options, patient empowerment, and self-management to like, follow, or join us on social media.

**About MEI:** Founded in 1993, MEI is a national 501(c)(3) public charity dedicated to *helping people with chronic diseases learn to manage and improve their health*. MEI fulfills its mission by developing evidence-based education to empower patients, families, and health professionals; advocating for patient-centered policies; and doing research. MEI is funded through corporate sponsorships, fee-for-service contracts, product sales, and donations. Make a tax-deductible contribution through MEI's website: [www.mei.org](http://www.mei.org).

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