

Sample Letter: Jen Feldman



"Life's a party and everyone is waiting to be invited." Jen Feldman has built her life around this mantra. She has never met a stranger and has dedicated her life to building community. There is no one who works harder and is more dedicated to the strength and vibrancy of our community than Jen. Today, she needs to call upon the strength of our community in search of a kidney donor. Jen needs us. As many of you know from a past bulletin article, Jen has kidney disease and is in need of a transplant. She is now at 8% of kidney function and in kidney failure. Her health is at a precipice. She needs a kidney donor immediately.

As you may know, we are all born with two kidneys, and we can still thrive and lead normal healthy lives with one kidney. As one doctor explained, "Just think, people have no problem having only one kidney, so we have to ask, why did God give us two kidneys? Perhaps it is so you would have an extra one to donate and save a life!"

There is no greater Jewish value than saving a life. In the Talmud, saving a life supersedes almost all other values, and thus organ donation is one of the greatest Jewish acts. The Reform Movement has constantly reaffirmed the value of organ donation, and particularly kidney donation, based on the biblical mandate "You shall not stand idly by the blood of your neighbor." (Lev. 19:16). For more information on organ donation go to organdonor.gov

To be a donor for Jen Feldman, the blood type should be **A+, A- or O** (universal) and go through a relatively non-invasive health screening process covered by Jen's insurance. If you have any questions or would like more details on the process, or if you have an interested donor, please contact **Debbie Plawner at 503-830-3833** (a kidney donor). She will also be the liaison to Jen and her medical team.