

## Friends and Family Letter Template #2:

*This letter is a guide to help you create a customized letter to send to your friends and/or family to tell them about your need for a kidney donor. Feel free to talk to your donor search coach to get recommendations on what information to include and guidance on making changes and additions that are best for you. Areas that need to be customized are highlighted.*

Greetings everyone!

Please forgive the form letter, but I have something I need to tell you, and I thought this would be the best way to reach as many people as possible and avoid making anyone feel uncomfortable or pressured.

I will spare you the details. The bottom line is, I need a kidney transplant. I [have started/plan to start/ am lucky enough to not be on DELETE THE VERSION THAT DOES NOT APPLY TO YOU] dialysis, which keeps kidneys working for a while, but it's an exhausting and difficult process and not a long-term solution.

I [am on/plan to join DELETE THE VERSION THAT DOES NOT APPLY TO YOU] the waiting list to receive a kidney from a deceased donor, but I have no idea how long the wait will be. Whether I get a kidney depends on a number of factors, and the wait can be as long as 10 years. I don't know if my body can wait that long.

My best chance for a kidney transplant is to find a living kidney donor. That's where this letter comes in. If you would consider becoming a kidney donor, please visit <https://www.kidneyregistry.com/donate> to do a short screening to see if you qualify. There is no obligation to go through with the donation, and I will not know that you are being tested.

Basically, it involves some tests (blood tests, urine tests, and some other basic health screenings), the donation surgery, and four to six weeks of recovery. Most kidney donors feel back to 100% within a few weeks. You can choose when and where to donate, your medical expenses as well as lost wages, travel costs, and dependent care expenses will be covered, and you don't even have to be medically compatible with me to donate on my behalf. If you're interested in how it works, visit <https://www.kidneyregistry.com/voucher>.

That's all! Thank you so much for reading this letter and for even considering being a kidney donor. If you choose not to be a donor, there are no hard feelings! I know it is a lot to ask and I totally understand if you'd rather not. I will never make you feel bad about your decision or try to change your mind. And please, don't feel weird or uncomfortable talking to me about it—I need your support now more than ever.

If you don't want to donate but are interested in helping in other ways, that would be wonderful! We need help getting the word out, so I encourage you to share my story with anyone you know if you feel comfortable doing so. I also have a website you can visit and share with others: [\[ADD YOUR MICROSITE URL HERE\]](#).

I am also happy to answer any questions you may have. If nothing else, I hope you will keep me in your thoughts. I can use all the help I can get.

Love,

[Your Name]

[Phone number or email address if comfortable sharing]