



Ann Marie Dufrasne, left, a patient at the Beaver Dam Dialysis Center, is welcomed by William Nanney who was the first volunteer at the Beaver Dam Dialysis Center. The center is looking for other volunteers to help address patient comfort needs. (Photo: Photo courtesy of Agnesian HealthCare)

BEAVER DAM – For 13 years, the professionals with Agnesian HealthCare’s dialysis services in Beaver Dam have helped countless individuals experiencing kidney failure to receive quality, ongoing treatment at its Monroe Street facility.

Agnesian Dialysis Services offers two methods of treatment to people with end-stage kidney disease: Hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis. Hemodialysis is a procedure, which uses a machine to rid the blood of waste buildup and remove excess water.

Peritoneal dialysis places fluid into the abdominal cavity to flush out the waste and excess water, which a functioning kidney would normally remove.

In addition, staff works with patients on renal (kidney) transplant options, including getting them on transplant waiting lists.

Patients and their families benefit from a multi-disciplinary team, including Drs. Bret Pasiuk and Rafal Ciecierski, both board-certified nephrologists. Dr. Pasiuk cares for patients in Beaver Dam and Fond du Lac, while Dr. Ciecierski sees patients in Fond du Lac and Waupun. They are joined by Aleshia Cole, APNP, nurse practitioner.

Working closely with these providers are Diane Posthuma and Sue VanHouten, dialysis

supervisors, and a full complement of certified nurses and technicians. In addition, Agnesian Dialysis Services offers patients comprehensive support services from dietitians, social workers and chaplains who understand the special needs of patients on dialysis.

The dialysis center has added a new dimension to its care in Beaver Dam, and has found great success and is working to expand: Volunteers.

Volunteers are needed at the dialysis center on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to noon. The ideal volunteer enjoys being around people, is a good listener and is detail-oriented to record patients' weights. Interested individuals can choose to work one day per week or more.

For more information or to share interest in joining the dialysis team, contact Karen Gross at 920-324-6559 or complete an online application at [agnesian.com](http://agnesian.com).

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