

## LMC Parking Officer Is an Organ Donor Recipient

Some people wake up in the morning feeling depressed and unhappy about their job, their career, or their family life. For Los Medanos College parking officer **Michael Hotton**, every day is an opportunity to live life to the fullest because he is an organ donor recipient.

Hotton was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes at 17 years old. He had no health complications for 14 years until 2009 when he went in to see a doctor for a broken foot that was unrelated to his diabetes. Routine blood work was performed and his doctor urged him to see a kidney doctor as soon as possible.

"I was told that my kidney function was only at 28 percent, and I needed to start thinking about what kind of dialysis I would like to be on if my health continued to deteriorate," said Hotton. "I then started my peritoneal dialysis about a month later and had to live by a very strict medication plan, dialysis plan, and go to multiple doctor appointments every month."

Hotton was then asked by the hospital where he wanted to receive a kidney transplant, or if he was interested in a dual transplant of his kidney and pancreas at the same time. The dual transplant was a lot more complicated and risky, but the wait time for the transplants would go from about 6 years to about 2 years. "To no longer being diabetic made the decision easy, so I chose the dual transplant."

After only 14 months of being on dialysis, he got the call he was waiting for on October 30, 2011. A few hours later he arrived at the hospital and was joined by other family members. The doctor told them he was on his way to harvest the organs from the donor, and if everything went well they would be transplanted in the morning.

He doesn't remember much those next few days other than the doctors telling him that the surgery was a success and everything went well. Hotton spent seven days in the hospital and began walking around the hospital floor on the second night. His progress was amazing to the doctors that performed the transplants, and so far he has experienced no complications and no signs of rejection.

"When people ask me about the experience of being a donor recipient, I have to first say that although I do not know who my donor family is, I am very thankful to them for giving me the gift of life," said Hotton. "Second, it has taught me to have appreciation for life, family, friends and to enjoy the small and big things that life has to offer. And finally, I want to educate our community about the organ donor program. There is such a need for organ transplants; an ideal person could help up to 80 people. I am living proof that it works, and feel incredibly lucky to be alive thanks to the unselfish decision of my donor family."

To learn more about organ transplants and organ donation, visit [www.donatelifecalifornia.org](http://www.donatelifecalifornia.org).



LMC Parking Officer **Michael Hotton** with his wife **Natalie**.

### Cabinet Highlights

To review the highlights of Cabinet meetings held in June 2013, click on the link below:

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors\\_cabinet/June%202013.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/June%202013.pdf)

To review the highlights of Cabinet meetings held in July 2013, click on the link below:

[http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors\\_cabinet/July%202013.pdf](http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/July%202013.pdf)

## Chancellor Chats Are Scheduled

Have an idea to increase our student enrollment? Do you have a suggestion on how we can be more efficient and save money for the District? Want to stop in and just say hello?

Chancellor **Helen Benjamin** is coming to your campus soon for her annual "Chancellor Chats" that gives employees the chance to ask questions and talk about issues that are important to them. This is a great opportunity to speak with her on an informal basis, so mark your calendar and stop by for a visit and say hello. To schedule an appointment at any of the locations, contact **Carol Bluit-Edwards** at extension 1-6973.

Date	Location	Room	Time
9/12/2013	LMC	Room L-106	1:00-3:00 pm
9/16/2013	Brentwood	Room C-1	12:30-2:30 pm
10/10/2013	SRC	Room W-137	1:00-3:00 pm
10/11/2013	DO	Chancellor's Office	3:00-4:30 pm
10/15/2013	DVC	Student Services Center-126	12:30-2:30 pm
10/31/2013	CCC	AA-216	12:30-2:00 pm