For Immediate Release: March 28, 2018
Contact: Rob Poehnelt, Marketing Communications Manager
Phone: 608-833-8033
rpoehnelt@mei.org

MEI Launches Effort to Help Kids and Families Affected by Kidney Disease

Madison, Wisconsin— During National Kidney Month, the non-profit public charity Medical Education Institute has launched a national effort to raise money to help children and families affected by kidney disease. HOPE4Kids with KIDney Disease aims to build kidney disease education and support tools that are specialized for kids and families with chronic kidney disease (CKD).

CKD affects kids of all ages: in 2015, 1,375 kids and teens developed kidney failure. However, as the numbers are small, few resources focus on the unique challenges faced by kids, including diet, self-image, growth problems, hospital stays, and difficulty with school and activities. Dialysis may be necessary to treat kidney failure if a kidney transplant is not immediately available or possible.

Donations to HOPE4Kids with KIDney Disease are being collected through YouCaring.com, a crowdfunding platform for non-profit organizations.

“Kidney disease and kidney failure make life difficult for anyone, and can be extra hard for children, teens, and their families,” said MEI Executive Director, Dori Schatell, MS. “We will help them see there is hope, and you can have a good life. MEI can create tools and information that will teach how to take an active role in managing kidney disease so they can live life to its fullest.”

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. At MEI, we focus on CKD, and fulfill our 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.

###