

CITIZENSHIP

Save A Life: Join The Marrow Donor Registry

(NAPSA)—You could save someone's life if you join the National Marrow Donor Program Registry.



Each year, more than 30,000 children and adults are diagnosed with leukemia and other diseases for which a stem cell transplant may be the only cure. Only 30 percent of these people will find matching donors within their families. The others will look to the National Marrow Donor Program Registry for a potential life-saving match. At any given time, 3,000 patients are searching the donor registry for a potentially life-saving stem cell donor.

"Over the last decade, the registry has grown significantly, which has enabled more patients than ever before to receive transplants for life-threatening diseases," explains Stephen J. Forman, chair of the transplantation program at City of Hope Cancer Center in Los Angeles.

"In the 27 years since our first successful transplant, medical advances in this field have given thousands of people worldwide a second chance at life," Forman continues. "The only way to ensure that a greater number of patients will find matching donors in the future is for more people to join the National Marrow Donor Program Registry."

Ethnic minorities are strongly encouraged to register because they are under-represented. For more information on registering, call 1-800-MARROW-2 or visit www.marrow.org.