

SERVICE-LEARNING PROJECT

FALL 2020



JOIN A LIFE-SAVING MOVEMENT

Be The Match is on a mission: diversify the blood stem cell donor registry to ensure equal outcomes for all patients. Cancer does not discriminate, but cancer care and treatment options do. You can play a role in disrupting one of the biggest health disparities in our country today.

For the first time ever, Be The Match will produce *Seeking Lifesavers*, a web-series created in collaboration with student ambassadors, with all production completed virtually. Students who participate in this service-learning project will work together on a cross-disciplinary team while earning volunteer hours from a national non-profit. The resulting web-series will bring our mission to life and be published on Be The Match social media channels.

SEEKING LIFESAVERS

Real talk about what it takes to conquer life-threatening disease and emerge with a new perspective. Patients, blood stem cell donors, family and friends share their firsthand experiences while spreading hope and celebrating life.

THE DETAILS

Choose the roles you're most interested in. Develop skills, build your resume, network with like-minded students, and try something new.

You should expect to dedicate approximately 15 hours to the project between October and December.

Producer

Lead communication for the team, facilitate all logistical planning, coordinate details with featured guests, identify and secure resources needed in advance, remain agile to problem-solve as things come up, ensure all deadlines are met.

Editor

With the Host and featured guest, assist to create a story arch for each episode, edit video, music, and graphics together to create episodes with a high production value.

Host

All footage of interviews to be featured in the web series will be captured via video call. Get to know your featured guest and appear with them on-camera. Craft questions to create a compelling story that personifies the mission of Be The Match.

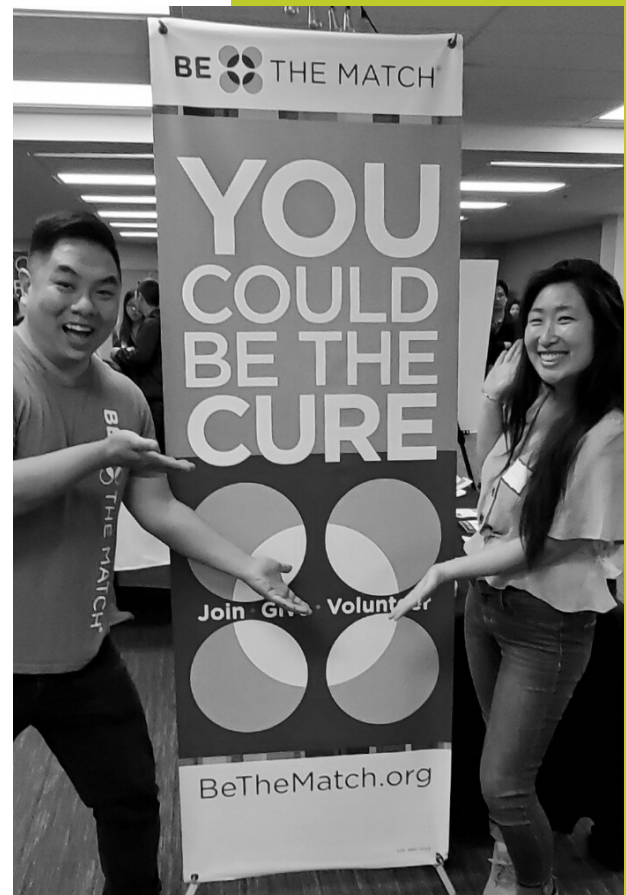
Music Composer

Compose original music for the project. Determine the best way to support and enhance the stories being shared in each episode while creating an immersive experience.

Graphic Designer

Create graphics for each episode as needed (infographics, photo collages, title cards, etc.). Design materials for posting on various social media platforms.

Have ideas for other ways you'd like to contribute to the project? Tell us how you can best lend your talents to the team.



THE APPLICATION

Please submit your responses via email to christine.mantillaenmdp.org.

Our team will review applications on a rolling basis. Applications will be accepted through **Wednesday, October 14th**.

We are excited to learn more about you!



Name:

Pronouns:

Major:

Phone:

Email:

What aspect of the Be The Match mission do you connect to the most?

Which two roles would you like to try? What strengths or skills would you apply?

What professional skill do you hope to build on as part of this project?

What is the main thing you'd like to take from this experience?

Describe your personality in three words.



THERE'S A CURE FOR BLOOD CANCER?

**Yes! The cure is a blood
stem cell transplant.**

Bones might seem rock solid, but they actually contain marrow, a spongy substance made up of fat and other supportive tissue and stem cells. Blood stem cells can differentiate into all the different components of healthy blood, and send hundreds of billions of new blood cells into circulation every day. Life-threatening blood diseases often begin with genetic mutations in the stem cells that result in malignant blood cells. Just a small population of healthy blood stem cells from a genetically matched donor can regenerate a whole body's worth of healthy marrow in a patient, curing them of their life-threatening disease.



WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE A DONOR?

Join the registry if you are 18-44 years old, in good health, and willing to donate to any patient in need. If you come up as a match, Be The Match will contact you to talk about next steps. 80% of donors will be asked to provide peripheral blood stem cells through a blood donation process called apheresis. 20% of donors may be asked to provide marrow, which is extracted under anesthesia. Donors regenerate their stem cells/marrow within 2-6 weeks. Becoming a life-saving donor is safe and 100% free.

WHY DOES ETHNIC HERITAGE MATTER?

Donors and patients are matched based on HLA type, or human leukocyte antigen type, which are inherited genetic factors. This is where ethnic heritage comes into play. Patients are most likely to match with a donor that shares their ethnic background. Less than 3 in 10 patients will have a match in their family, so most patients will need to rely on the registry to find an unrelated donor.

ODDS OF FINDING A MATCH BASED ON ETHNIC BACKGROUND

Black or African American

23%



Asian or Pacific Islander

41%



Hispanic or Latino

46%



American Indian and Alaska Native

57%



White

77%

