

For people with life-threatening blood cancers like leukemia and lymphoma or other blood diseases, a cure exists—and the amazing thing is, it could be you!

Ron, marrow donor



### Be The Match saves lives through:

- Transplant research
- Patient assistance
- Adding new members to the registry

### Learn more at:

[BeTheMatch.org/AboutBeTheMatch](http://BeTheMatch.org/AboutBeTheMatch)



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# Thank you

for joining the Be The Match Registry.

## My life-saving pledge

### I understand that:

- The cheek swab I gave when I joined was used to add me to the registry for current and future searching patients in need of a marrow transplant. It was not a marrow donation.
- There are two methods of donation: peripheral blood stem cell (PBSC) and marrow. I will be asked to donate by whichever method is best for the patient.
- If I donate PBSC, I will receive injections of a drug called filgrastim to increase the number of blood-forming cells in my bloodstream.
- If I donate marrow, anesthesia will be used.
- I will be listed on the registry until I am 61, unless I inform Be The Match\* that I'm unwilling or unable to donate.

### I promise to:

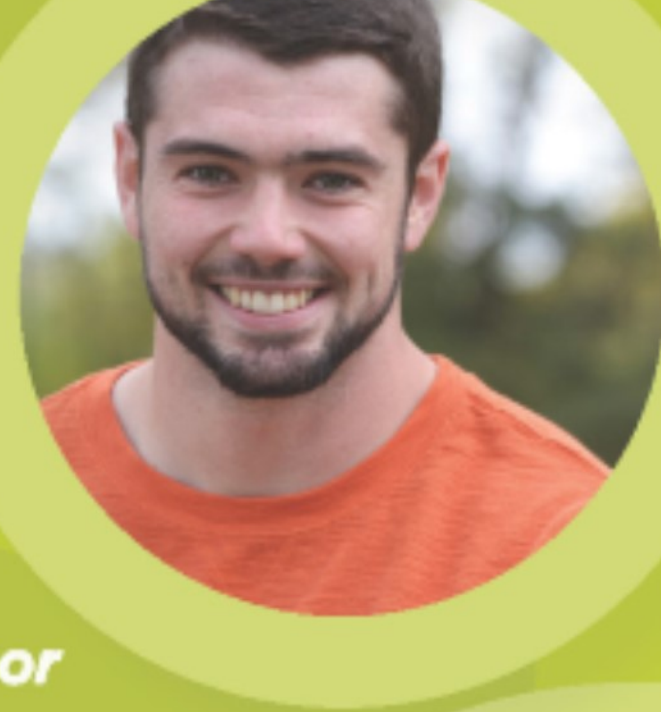
- Be willing to donate to any patient in need.
- Keep my contact information up to date at [BeTheMatch.org/InfoUpdate](http://BeTheMatch.org/InfoUpdate).
- Tell my family and friends I joined the registry so I have their support if called as a match.

### If I match a patient:

- I will respond quickly.
- I will give a blood sample for further testing.
- I will make a time commitment of 20 to 30 hours over a 4- to 6-week period to attend appointments and donate if I am selected as the best match for a patient.

Know the steps of donation, visit [BeTheMatch.org/Steps](http://BeTheMatch.org/Steps)

Justin, marrow donor



1  
in every  
500  
members  
will donate

## Will I be called?

On average, 1 in every 500 members on the Be The Match Registry in the United States will go on to donate to a patient.

Matching donors and patients is much more complex than matching blood types. Doctors match donors to patients based on their human leukocyte antigen (HLA) tissue type. HLA is a protein, or marker, found on most cells in your body. Your immune system uses these markers to recognize which cells belong in your body and which do not. A close HLA match between donor and patient is the most important factor for a successful transplant.

Some members are on the registry for many years before they are called as a match for a patient and not all registry members will be called. Doctors request donors ages 18 to 44 more than 90 percent of the time, as research shows that younger donors provide the greatest chance for transplant success. However, every member of the registry is important. You could be the only one to be that patient's cure. You never know when a patient will need YOU!



Laura, marrow donor  
Owen, transplant recipient

## How can I help right now?

- Encourage others to join the registry
- Volunteer and attend events
- Contribute money or fundraise
- Buy at [ShopBeTheMatch.org](http://ShopBeTheMatch.org). Use promo code WELCOME for 10% off your first purchase of \$35 or more
- Join our online communities and spread the word about #BeTheMatch; visit [BeTheMatch.org/ShareOnline](http://BeTheMatch.org/ShareOnline) for some sharable images

Learn more at [BeTheMatch.org/HelpTheCause](http://BeTheMatch.org/HelpTheCause)

Let others know you signed up to save lives!

Malika, registry member

