

Bone marrow donor registry drive

Join Children's Medical Center on Friday, March 12, for the 19th annual "Be The Match" bone marrow registry drive from 9 a.m. to 7 pm.

Locations

The drive will take place on the first floor of the Dallas Ambulatory Care Pavilion (2350 Stemmons Freeway); on the first floor of the main hospital in the Tower D lobby level (1935 Medical District Drive); and at the Children's at Legacy campus in Plano (7601 Preston Road). Free and convenient flat-lot parking is available in front of the Ambulatory Care Pavilion and at the Legacy campus.

The drive types bone marrow for the [National Marrow Donor Program](#) (NMDP), which is open to healthy people between the ages of 18 and 60. The event recruits potential blood stem cell donors for thousands of children, including patients at Children's, as well as for adults currently seeking a life-saving match.

Bone marrow donors from the African-American, Asian/Pacific Islander, Hispanic and American Indian communities are under-represented in the NMDP registry and are therefore critically important.

Volunteer donors can join the registry for free. Children's is making a donation to the Be The Match Registry in lieu of each participant's registration costs. Use the promo code 'childrens' at www.bethematch.org (also known as the NMDP) until the end of March for a free kit delivered directly to your door step.

The process is simple

The process to register is simple and painless. All it takes is a cotton swab from inside the cheek to determine the donor's tissue type. There are no blood draws. The sample will be entered into a computerized registry linked to the NMDP. If you have already registered, go to www.bethematch.org and update your contact information.

Almost 3,400 people have been typed at the matchmaker drive, but on any given day, more than 6,000 people are seeking their bone marrow match through the registry, so new registrants are crucial.

For information about the Children's "Be The Match" marrow drive, contact Cristy Ecton, outreach manager for the Children's Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders, at cristy.ecton@childrens.com or 214-456-2805.