

REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP

Platinum Sponsor: \$1000- Sponsor a Platinum Banner, and a page in the Ahepa Marrow Tournament Book

Gold Sponsor: \$500 - Sponsor a Gold Banner, and a page in the Ahepa Marrow Tournament Book

Silver Sponsor: \$250 - Sponsor a Silver Banner, and a page in the Ahepa Marrow Tournament Book

Bronze Sponsor: \$100 - Sponsor a page in the Ahepa Marrow Tournament Book

The Ahepa Marrow Donor program, is a **non-for-profit 501(c) (3) organization** that is organizing **The Sixth Annual AHEPA MARROW National Invitational Basketball Tournament on March 5, 6,7, 8 and 9th 2014**. Because of our non-for profit tax exempt status, your sponsorship is tax deductible. The Ahepa Marrow tournament has several goals:

1. Promotes Education regarding the marrow transplant process
2. Raises Awareness of the need for donors and the Marrow Transplant Process
3. Recruits Eligible Donors
4. Serves as a National Fundraising Event to cover the cost of testing to join

The tournament will primarily raise funds to cover testing of eligible donors who wish to join the Bone Marrow registry, and potentially be a life-saving match for a patient who needs a life-saving marrow transplant. We will take the opportunity during the tournament to educate the participants, spectators, and the general public on the importance to have eligible donors join the Marrow Registry and help save a life. The more individuals who join the registry, therefore the larger the donor pool, the greater the likelihood of finding donors who match for a successful transplant. The Ahepa Marrow Tournament Book will contain literature regarding the Marrow transplant process so that everyone learns how easy it is to become a donor, and also how important it is.

YOU MAY BE A MATCH TO SAVE SOMEONE'S LIFE!!!!

The Ahepa Donor Program began in 1988, and continues to serve the public by

1. Find a potential marrow stem cell donor for any individual in need of a marrow transplant

2. Provide and assist in the search process for individuals in need of a marrow transplant by searching the Ahepa Bone Marrow Registry, the American Bone Marrow Registry, the Caitlin Raymond International Registry, and the NMDP
3. Continue to increase the Ahepa Bone Marrow Donor Registry database (our current registry has 11,539 donors and we have recruited an additional 3,302 donors for the NMDP, giving us 14,831 donors) Our current goal is to have 20,000 active donors, in order to improve the likelihood and probability of finding donors for individuals in desperate need of a match.
4. Continue to increase the public's awareness of the desperate need to seek out donors for patients in need of a life saving transplant, by educating and sharing their inspiring stories
5. Continue to raise funds in order to finance future oral swab testing
6. Continue to increase the public's awareness of umbilical cord blood donation process

Our Event will take place on March 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9th 2014, and is our **Sixth Annual AHEPA MARROW National Invitational Basketball Tournament** that will raise funds that will be used to cover the cost of testing individuals who wish to join the Bone Marrow Registry. More importantly, the tournament event will allow us to take the opportunity to educate the participants, spectators, and general public during the event via a Monograph Ahepa Marrow book and a special lecture that will serve to educate everyone about the marrow transplant process, and also raise awareness of the current changes to the Marrow Transplant process. Becoming a donor has become easier through oral swab testing, and donating has become easier and more acceptable through a process called **Apheresis**. The general public is not aware of these very important new developments that make the marrow transplant process much more acceptable. The public needs to be made aware of the drastic need to increase the donor marrow registry pool thereby increasing the likelihood of finding a match for patients with leukemia or lymphoma. This is particularly true for all minorities (especially for African American, Hispanic, Asian, and American Indian) who have the least likelihood of find a match because of the low number of minorities being in the Bone marrow registry. Moreover, most mothers who give birth are unaware that they can donate the umbilical cord blood of their newborn (which is rich in stem cells) for free, but instead it is unfortunately discarded because of the lack of information regarding this issue in the general public. Donating umbilical cord blood can help save future lives. We will be recruiting and doing oral buccal swab testing during our tournament on March 5-9th 2014, and will be recruiting participants and spectators in the tournament to join the Bone Marrow Registry, and potentially help save a life.

Both North Park University and Northeastern University have been generous, and are allowing us to use their facilities to run the tournament, and all the funds raised will therefore help pay for donors testing allowing them to become part of the Bone Marrow registry, and be a potential match for a patient who is suffering from Leukemia or lymphoma, who needs a life saving marrow transplant to survive!! We would be honored to have corporations, restaurants, individuals choose a gold, silver, or bronze sponsorship level with our tournament, and would be proud to acknowledge them during the tournament through The Ahepa Marrow Tournament Book, Banner Sponsorship, and our Ahepa Marrow Web site for their generous support. The Chicago local radio, television, and newspapers will be covering the event and this will also allow us to mention our supporting sponsors **of the event that promotes education and raises awareness of the Marrow transplant process as well as raising funds to cover the cost of**

becoming a donor that ultimately makes this "A Basketball Tournament That Saves Lives".

A few ears ago, we did drives for Leo, a young Filipino man who unfortunate recently passed away. Leo was married with three young daughters, and was suffering from leukemia, and he had no match in the Bone Marrow Registry. He and his family exemplify why we need to "Fight the Fight" for him and others like him in order to increase the donor pool thereby increasing the probability of finding a life saving match for each patient. We presently are conducting drives to fin a match for a 64yo married man suffering from leukemia in Washington D.C. area.

Our Web site is at www.Ahepamarrow.org , and it contains more information about our organization and mission.

In summary, we need financial support for our event that we enable us to educate the general public on new developments that make being a Donor of the Bone Marrow Registry presently much more acceptable at this time. There is a need to specifically increase donors of most minority groups because of their low levels, making a patient of minority ethnicity less likely to find a match. Lastly, the use of umbilical cord is being wasted everyday. This event and the coverage via the media will give all supporting sponsors a great opportunity to help us make Marrow Donation better and more successful. The AHEPA MARROW Sponsors will be acknowledged for their financial support and assistance which allows us to continue to educate the general public and raise the awareness of the need to do so in order to help desperate families and patients who are searching for matches to save their lives. Please join us in our crusade and go to our Web site at www.ahepamarrow.org where we have more information regarding our organization. **Thank you for taking your time to consider your possible contribution to our event, and any support at any level would be greatly appreciated.**

Thanks,

John Venetos M.D.
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The Ahepa Marrow 2012-13 Annual Report, 501(c)(3) Letter, Ahepa Marrow Tournament Book Sponsor Page, several recent articles regarding the Ahepa Marrow program, Ahepa Marrow Tournament Flyer, and the Ahepa W9 form are all available upon request