

PRESS RELEASE

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Amy's Army Encourages Supporters to "Be The Match"

National Marrow Program's Marrowthon offers free registration until June 22

Pittsburgh, PA (June 16, 2009) – The National Marrow Program is currently running its <u>Be the Match Marrowthon</u> during which supporters can join the National Bone Marrow Donor Registry free until June 22. Pittsburgh group Amy's Army encourages the community to take advantage of this free registration online as they continue to find a donor for Amy.

Beyond registering free online, current or past donors/supporters are encouraged to spread the word of the Marrowthon through multiple social media networks. Supporters can join the <u>cause on Facebook</u> or follow <u>Be The Match on Twitter</u>. Be The Match also encourages supporters to share a <u>video widget</u> on their personal website or social media page.

Amy's Army started in 2003 to find a bone marrow donor for 16-year old Amy Katz of Pittsburgh, who suffers from leukemia. They have held drives in 12 states throughout the country, registered over 8,000 people in the National Bone Marrow Registry, found 25 marrow donors for patients looking for a match, but none for Amy.

The more people that know about the Marrowthon and take advantage of its free registration, the greater the chances of finding the perfect match for Amy and thousands of others like her. For more information on The National Marrow Program and the Be the Match Marrowthon or to register with their registry online, visit their website at www.marrow.org.

Started in 2003, Amy's Army is a devoted group of volunteers dedicated to finding a stem cell donor who can help Amy get well again. The search for Amy's perfect match also enlarges the ranks of the National Bone Marrow Registry, thereby helping thousands of others like Amy who are also searching every day for their perfect match.

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