

Fiscal Year 2019: Q2 (Jan—Mar)

Sharing the impact made possible through your support.

By giving generously to Be The Match®, you've helped save lives. You helped patients afford the uninsured costs of transplant, so that they can focus on healing. You funded groundbreaking transplant and cellular therapy research to discover new treatments. You allowed us to add more potential blood stem cell donors to the Be The Match Registry®, giving hope to patients searching for their match.

Thank you to the Asia-Pacific Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics Association for partnering with our life-saving mission and providing your support. Here are some recent highlights that you helped us achieve.

Enhancing the Donor Experience

After extensive consideration and planning, we are excited to announce our first Be The Match Collection Center will be



located in Seattle. As one of the dynamic initiatives of our five-year strategic plan, our goal is to establish blood stem cell and, eventually, bone marrow collection centers that deliver an amazing, personalized experience for our “hero” donors and increase our capacity to facilitate collections as the field of cell therapy continues to expand.

Over the next several months, we will build out the space and select the team to fulfill our vision for the center. We hope to collect our first blood stem cell donation by the end of the year; however, we will not compromise on the quality of the collection or the safety of the donor. The Seattle collection center is an important step for us to democratize cell therapy.

A Little Superhero

A marrow transplant can be hard on the entire family, not just the patient. Little Carina's parents call her their “superhero.” This superhero was 6 months old when she started experiencing high fevers, which eventually led to a febrile seizure. Carina was diagnosed with a rare—and potentially fatal—immune disorder. The only cure for someone with this type of disorder was a marrow transplant. Fortunately, a marrow donor was found through Be The Match, and she received her transplant in spring 2018.

Carina's mother, Noel, had to live at the hospital with Carina, while her spouse focused on their other daughter. “I have been unable to work, so it has put significant financial strain on our family.” The family was thankful that they qualified for our Transplant Support Assistance Grant, which Noel reported was “a great help.” Carina needed extensive home medical equipment, and the grant allowed them to cover those costs.

Today Carina is as courageous as ever—she has proven herself to be a fighter. This family has been through a lot, but the love, support and positivity that they offer their little superhero is inspirational.



IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

In Q2, nearly
84,000
potential blood
stem cell donors
joined the
registry.

We provided
\$852K in
patient
assistance
grants...

...to **652**
patients in need
of support.

And impacted
around **1,600**
lives through
transplant and
cellular therapy.

Meet the 2019 Amy Scholars

Our Amy Strelzer Manasevit Research Program has launched careers of over 30 promising scientists and clinicians focused on post-transplant complications. We provide \$80,000 for five years to each scholar to attract and retain the most talented early-career researchers in the blood stem cell transplant field. We are proud to introduce the 2019 Amy Scholars.



Tessa M. Andermann, MD, MPH

Stanford University

Modulation of CAR-T cell therapy efficacy by the intestinal microbiome in patients with leukemia and lymphoma



Pavan Bachireddy, MD

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Coevolution of leukemia and immune cells during GvL response and resistance



Noha Sharafeldin, MD, PhD

University of Alabama

Impact of cognitive training on cognition after allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation



Nathan Singh, MD

University of Pennsylvania

Molecular interactions between T cells and tumor cells that limit CAR-T cell cytotoxicity and persistence

Making Matches in Mexico

The Be The Match México initiative began in May 2017, with a goal to increase access to blood stem cell transplant for patients of Hispanic origin—in Mexico, across the U.S. and around the world.

We've seen incredible growth of the registry, with 15,275 total potential marrow donors added since program launch, and 8,000 of those individuals added in Q2 FY19. To spread the word about Be The Match and communicate the need for more donors, our local Marketing and Community Engagement teams have been hard at work throughout Mexico. Since October, the team has accomplished these milestones:

- 603 media publications (print, magazine, online, radio and TV)
- 50 promoted registry events
- 2 media tours and 3 media conferences

Not only have we made remarkable progress growing the registry, we're also quickly expanding operations to facilitate more marrow transplants. To date, 20 individuals have been identified as possible matches, and surely many more to come.

**We greatly appreciate
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If you have any questions
about giving to Be The
Match, please contact
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