



**PHOENIX
CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**PHOENIX CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AND MAYO CLINIC
TO HOST NATIONAL BONE MARROW SCREENING
Hispanic and Asian Donors needed.**

PHOENIX The Blood and Marrow (BMT) Transplant Program at Mayo Clinic and Phoenix Children's Hospital will host the National Marrow Donor Program's, *Mother's Day Marrow Donor Recruitment Campaign*, from May 14 – 17.

Currently at Phoenix Children's Hospital, there are seven children waiting for a bone marrow transplant, four of these are Hispanic, and one Asian. "We are specifically looking for minorities to come in and be registered," said Roberta Adams, MD, Medical Director of the Blood and Marrow Program at Phoenix Children's and Mayo Clinic. "There is always a need since the pool for minorities is so much smaller."

People age 18-60 are asked to fill out a short questionnaire. A small swab of cheek cells is taken to determine the tissue type to be matched against patients who need a donor. No extraction of blood or marrow takes place at the event. The test results are added to the NMDP registry. If a patient diagnosed with leukemia, lymphoma or other blood disorders does not have a matched family member the registry is consulted to see if there is a match resulting from the donor drive. If the match is identified, people on the registry are contacted to make sure they are still willing to proceed with the donation.

At Phoenix Children's, 1919 East Thomas, the drive will take place in their front lobby on Monday, May 14, and Tuesday, May 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Parking will be reserved in the parking garage for community donors.

At Mayo Clinic, 13400 E. Shea Blvd., Scottsdale, the drive will take place just outside the Taylor Auditorium on the first floor of the Mayo Clinic Building on Wednesday, May 16, from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. At Mayo Clinic Hospital, 5777 E. Shea Blvd., Phoenix, the drive will take place in the lab waiting area on the first floor near Admitting on Thursday, May 17, also from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

NMDP's worldwide network of more than 500 leading medical facilities, including Mayo Clinic and Phoenix Children's Hospital, have assisted in helping more than 25,000 patients receive the chance for a longer life because they received a marrow or cord blood transplant through the NMDP.

Phoenix Children's Hospital is Arizona's leader in pediatric care and is one of the 10 largest free-standing children's hospitals in the nation. The most comprehensive array of pediatric specialists in the State practice at this one organization. The outstanding clinical expertise, as well as high patient volume, and an unwavering commitment to caring only for children, all contribute to Children's leadership position. For information about Phoenix Children's, visit the Hospital's award-winning website at www.phoenixchildrens.com

For more information about the *Thanks Mom! Marrow Donor Recruitment Campaign*, call (480) 342-0290 at Mayo Clinic or (602) 546-5871 at Phoenix Children's.