



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DKMS and The Religious Congregations of Oakland Mills Meeting House Host Bone Marrow Donor Drive

WHO: **DKMS** is a global organization with the mission to grow the number of suitable bone marrow and blood stem cell donors for patients in need. With more than 7 million registered bone marrow donors worldwide, DKMS is part of the world's largest network of donor centers. Lynn Green of the Oakland Mills Meeting House Religious Community is partnering with DKMS to increase awareness and help patients battling blood cancer by hosting a bone marrow drive.

WHAT: **DKMS** and **The Congregations of The Oakland Mills Meeting House**, based in Columbia, MD, will host a bone marrow donor drive for people to learn more about the process and get registered as potential lifesavers.

The DKMS team and volunteers will be onsite to help participants fill out the registration form and swab the inside of their mouth to determine if they are a match for a patient in need. Registration is simple and takes less than five minutes. Individuals between the ages of 18 to 55 in good health are eligible to participate. Anyone who cannot attend the drive can register online at dkms.org.

WHERE: **The Oakland Mills Meeting House**
5885 Robert Oliver Place
Columbia, MD 21045

WHEN: **Friday, December 7, 2018** **5:00 PM – 9:30 PM**
Saturday, December 8, 2018 **9:30 AM – 6:00 PM**
Sunday, December 9, 2018 **9:00 AM – 11:30 AM**

WHY: Blood cancer is the third leading cause of all cancer deaths in the US. However, many patients can be saved with bone marrow transplants. Every year, approximately 14,000 people will need a bone marrow transplant from an unrelated donor, but less than half will get one. Growing the number of eligible donors will help improve these odds.

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