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DATRI CONNECT

VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER
- JULY 2024



MANAGEMENT DESK

Dear Volunteers,

Greetings from DATRI!

We are delighted to connect with each of you through this newsletter. This platform allows us to share heartwarming, life-saving stories, and we believe these can inspire many of you to stay even more invested with DATRI.

In this newsletter, we share the inspiring initiative of volunteer, Nikita on how the 17-year-old, rallied her family and friends to raise funds for DATRI. Her efforts highlight the impact young people can have in supporting life-saving causes. Likewise, Ashish shares about how his stem cell donation experience, although heart-wrenching, strengthened his resolve to register more donors and make a difference.

We also got the threesome, Muhammed Jasil, Sarathlal, and Anirudh to share their journey from teenage volunteers to dedicated advocates, illustrating how their passion for DATRI's mission has continued alongside their careers.

Also you have the chance to engage and inspire others to join the journey to saving lives through our Family Campaign. Learn about our new initiative encouraging families to register as stem cell donors, amplifying our mission and extending hope to more patients.

We are sure you will enjoy reading the articles and share about DATRI and its work with others and maximize our reach and help in our goal of creating a larger pool of potential stem cell donors, giving hope to patients battling blood cancer and blood disorders.

Your continued support and active participation are crucial. Together, we can save lives and spread hope.

Warm regards,

Claudia Rutt
Chief Financial Officer

Sivapriya Azhaganandam
Manager- Volunteer Management



THE POWER OF VOLUNTEERING: MAKING A DIFFERENCE BEYOND YOURSELF

Sivapriya Azhaganandam, Manager - Volunteer Management.



Dear Volunteers,

I am thrilled to connect with all of you through this newsletter as I step into the role of managing our Volunteering department at DATRI. I have witnessed firsthand the transformative power of volunteering, and I am excited to share my insights on how volunteering can make a profound impact not only on those we serve but also on ourselves.

Personal Growth and Fulfillment

Engaging in activities that align with your values and passions leads to a deeper sense of purpose and satisfaction. This fulfillment can improve mental health, reduce stress, and increase happiness. The stories of DATRI's Volunteer experience featured in this newsletter illustrate how volunteering has enriched their lives and transformed their perspectives.

Professional Development

Volunteering is a powerful tool for professional growth, offering opportunities to develop new skills, gain diverse experience and build a network. At DATRI, volunteers can organize donor drives, manage awareness campaigns, offer counseling and more. Likewise, a group of volunteers Armaan Gulati, Manpreet Kaur, Purnima & Mohd. Abbas Farooqi from BVIMR, Delhi were actively volunteering for DATRI in coordinating and managing drives in their own college which showcases their leadership and teamwork capabilities.

Building a Stronger Community

Volunteers help build a more resilient community by giving their time, skills & efforts. Jai Ajeenkya, a volunteer, has significantly contributed helping DATRI in counseling potential donors and encouraging many others to join DATRI as volunteers.

Social Connections

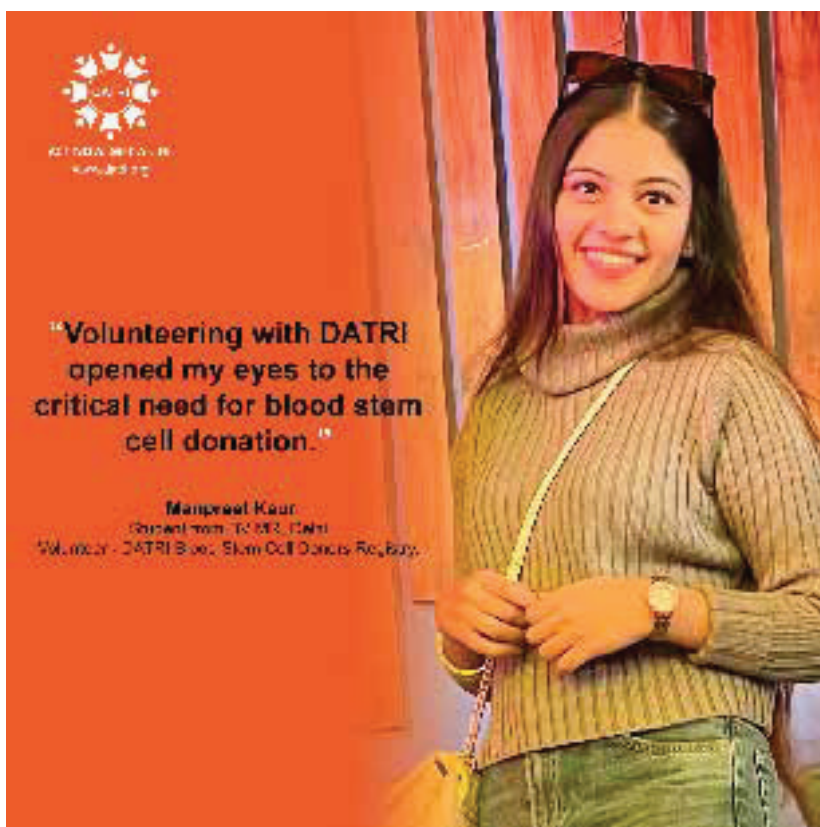
Volunteering offers a way to connect with others and provides a sense of belonging as volunteers work together towards common goals. The long-lasting bonds formed among DATRI volunteers

serve as an inspiration to all. We have Amarnath, Muhammed Labeeb Hadi, Saranya G S, Anusree, Ajay our Volunteer Champions from Kerala who have helped to organize donor drives. They share that thier efforts gives them a sense of fulfilment and also helps them to bring a difference in the lives of others.

Encouraging Civic Responsibility

Volunteering fosters civic responsibility and active citizenship. Our volunteers—from retired seniors, working professionals to college students—champion the cause of blood stem cell donation and inspire others to join.

Volunteering benefits both volunteers and the communities they serve. We are grateful for each one of you and the incredible contributions you make. Together, we are building a stronger, healthier, and more compassionate community.





STAND UP FOR A CAUSE: NIKITA'S JOURNEY TO RAISE FUNDS FOR DATRI

My name is Nikita Kurumella. I am 17 years old and study at National Public School, Bengaluru. I first heard about DATRI through a classmate who had started volunteering with the organization and shared her experience online. Her post piqued my interest, and I reached out to learn how I could contribute to this noble cause.

I was deeply moved by the stories of patients with life-threatening blood cancers and disorders. This ignited a desire within me to educate myself and others about these diseases and how we can all become lifesavers. The more I learned, the more I wanted to find ways to help these patients in any way I could.

After speaking with a few members from DATRI, I understood how the organization works tirelessly to help patients receive the treatment they need and to build a robust stem cell donor base in India. They explained that many patients lack the funds necessary for the testing process, and one of the best ways I could help was by raising funds for DATRI.



Inspired by the dedication of DATRI, I decided to take action. I reached out to my family and friends, sharing the vital work DATRI does and encouraging them to contribute to this cause. Given that most of my friends are students like me and not earning members, I requested that instead of buying me gifts for my birthday, they contribute the amount to DATRI. To my joy, everyone rallied around the cause, and together we managed to raise a substantial amount of money.

I raised about Rs 43,500 for DATRI. While it might seem like a small amount, I feel incredibly proud and elated that, as a student, I was able to make a difference. This is just the beginning for me, and I aim to do much more in the future.

As I started spreading the word about DATRI, more family members and friends became aware of the patients suffering and showed a willingness to help. I began receiving more inquiries about the cause and the incredible work DATRI does.

Volunteering with DATRI has taught me to be grateful for the privileges I have been blessed with. It has shown me that individual actions, no matter how small they seem, can collectively make a significant impact and even save lives. This journey has made me count my blessings, which I



previously took for granted. Listening to some of the DATRI stories has had a profound impact on me, and I feel blessed and grateful for the opportunity to be part of DATRI's lifesaving mission.

This experience will be cherished as one of the most significant and lifesaving memories of my student life. I hope my journey inspires others to stand up for a cause and make a difference in their own ways.

Nikita's efforts show how each one of us can replicate this in a similar way; a small step can be instrumental in making a difference in someone's life. Parents can encourage their children to explore ways they can be valuable to organizations like DATRI. This way, we can make the world a better place to live and for the students this will be a enriching experience.



THREESOME ON A MISSION: VOLUNTEERING WITH DATRI TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Muhammed Jasil, Sarath, and Anirudh: A Trio Dedicated to a Noble Cause

From childhood, the three of us—Muhammed Jasil, Sarathlal, and Anirudh—have been united by our passion for making a difference. This passion found its purpose when we started volunteering for DATRI while still in our teens. Despite our young age, our commitment to the cause was unwavering. Our mission was clear: to spread awareness and help add lifesavers through our efforts.



Muhammed Jasil: A Heartfelt Commitment

"For me, volunteering for DATRI is something I hold very close to my heart," says Muhammed Jasil. "My motto has always been to give without expecting anything in return."

Jasil has been instrumental in counseling and managing donors. Now working as a Tax Consultant in Dubai, he continues to support DATRI by coordinating donor engagements in the UAE. "No matter where I am, I feel it's my duty to help DATRI's cause. The joy of knowing that I can contribute to saving lives is immeasurable."

Sarath: A Pillar of Consistency

Sarath has been a constant presence in DATRI's volunteer community for many years. He started volunteering in his second year of college by organizing donor drives. "I wanted to use my time and skills to make a difference," he recalls. "With my group of friends, we organized multiple donor drives around Calicut, Kerala."

Sarath's involvement grew as he took on roles in handling awareness sessions, managing donor drives, and supporting donor counseling. Now a Content Analyst at Wipro in Kochi, he still finds time amidst his busy schedule to volunteer. "Volunteering for DATRI has become a part of who I am. It's fulfilling to know that our efforts can lead to saving lives."

Anirudh: Enthusiastic and Efficient

Anirudh's enthusiasm for volunteering is infectious. "Organizing donor drives and awareness sessions is something I'm passionate about," he says. "I enjoy managing these events and ensuring everything runs smoothly."

Working as an HR Analyst at UL Technology Solutions in Calicut, Anirudh excels at coordinating donor drives with precision. "Volunteering with DATRI has taught me a lot about dedication and teamwork. It's an honor to be part of such a noble mission."

A Shared Mission: Deeply Personal and Everlasting

Our journey with DATRI began during our studies and has continued alongside our careers. The commitment to saving lives through stem cell donation has become deeply personal for each of us. "Once we become attached to this cause, it's difficult not to be involved," we often say. "DATRI is ingrained in our very marrow."

DATRI provided us with various activities where we could get involved, from fundraising and donor drives to counseling and coordinating. The support and opportunities given to us by DATRI have been invaluable.

Join Us in the Mission

We believe that volunteers are the backbone of organizations like DATRI. Our collective efforts can create a ripple effect, inspiring more people to join the mission. "Volunteering with DATRI has shown us the true meaning of compassion and service," Sarathlal emphasizes. "It's a journey that we cherish every day."

"If you're looking for a way to make a difference, to save lives, and to experience the joy of giving, volunteering with DATRI is the way to go," Anirudh concludes. "Together, we can create a world where every patient finds a matching donor and a chance at life."

By sharing our story, we hope to inspire more individuals to volunteer with DATRI and experience the profound joy that comes from knowing you too can save lives.



A LIFESAVING DIAMOND

My name is Ashish P. Lakkad, and I am currently the department head at Dharmanandan Diamonds Company in Surat. My journey with DATRI began when I became a stem cell donor after registering during a donor registration drive at our company. DATRI's mission to save lives of those battling blood cancer and blood disorders inspired me to join as a volunteer.

"DATRI's mission resonated deeply with me. I wanted to contribute to the fight against blood-related diseases and cancer," I recall. After my registration, I was matched with a young patient and donated stem cells through a central line, as the veins in my hands were not suitable. Despite all the efforts, the child did not survive. This experience strengthened my resolve. Though my donation couldn't save that child's life, I am determined to register as many people as possible to help save others.



I am fortunate to have the support of my family and office staff in my service work with DATRI. Since joining as a donor and volunteer, I have found a new purpose in society. My friends from our company, who share my passion, have joined me as volunteers, helping to register people in camps everywhere.

"As a volunteer, I actively lead donor recruitment drives, generate leads, and counsel potential donors," I always think and feel, "many people are blessed with good health, but for those who may suffer from diseases like blood cancer, we could be a blessing."

Registering as a blood stem cell donor and getting the chance to be a lifesaver is one of the noblest acts one can do. Volunteering with DATRI gives you immense satisfaction, knowing you can be the catalyst for someone to get a second chance at life. Joining DATRI has been a profound learning experience for me. While I deeply regret that my donation couldn't save a life, I am committed to donating stem cells again if matched with another patient.

"My experience with DATRI is helping me nudge and inspire others to join as volunteers. Through this article, I hope to inspire more individuals to volunteer with DATRI. By joining us, you can be a diamond in disguise, helping to save lives and make a difference in the world.



Family Campaign: Join DATRI to Save Lives Together

We are thrilled to announce the launch of DATRI's Family Campaign, an initiative designed to increase family engagement in stem cell donation and raise awareness within our communities. This campaign is powered by the invaluable help of our dedicated volunteers.

The Family Campaign aims to inspire families to register as blood stem cell donors. When we donate our blood stem cells to someone battling blood cancer or a blood disorder, we not only save an individual but also bring happiness to their family and loved ones. Imagine if a family of four registers—each member has the potential to save a life, thereby impacting four families.

Volunteer Engagement: A Key to Success

This campaign presents a fantastic opportunity for our volunteers to play a pivotal role. We need your help to organize registration drives, distribute informational materials, and engage with the community to spread the word. Your efforts can help us reach more families and increase the number of potential donors.

How You Can Help:

1. Register as Donors:

Sign up as a family for stem cell donation. By doing so, your family could become the lifeline for someone in need. The process is simple, involving a quick swab collection that can make a significant difference. Family members between the ages of 18 and 50 are eligible to register as stem cell donors.

2. Donate Funds:

A contribution of ₹1800 as a family will cover the cost of a swab kit, helping more potential donors join the registry. This financial support is crucial in expanding our reach and increasing the chances of finding matches for patients in need.

3. Refer Another Family:

Spread the word by encouraging another family to participate by registering or donating. Your referral can help us expand our impact and save more lives.

Recognition for Participating Families

All participating families will receive a "Super Family Certificate" from DATRI upon completing any of the above actions. Additionally, participating families will be highlighted on our social media pages on May 15th, 2025, in celebration of the International Day of Families.

Join Us in This Lifesaving Campaign

We invite you to be a part of this transformative campaign. Your involvement—whether through registering, donating, referring another family, or volunteering—will create a significant impact on our life-saving mission.

How you can be part of the Family Campaign:

- You can do a awareness session in your neighborhood, resident welfare associations, family gatherings and encourage families to register.
- If you are working in a corporate, you can do a session about the campaign and how the employees can register for the campaign.
- Work with DATRI to do a session about the campaign in your college/institution and leverage about the campaign.
- If you have registered as a family, you can write a blog about the experience of registering as a family and thus inspire others to do the same.

"Together, we can make a difference in the lives of those battling blood cancer and blood disorders. Join us, and let's save lives, one family at a time."



**BE A SUPER FAMILY
BECOME A LIFESAVER FOR
BLOOD CANCER AND
BLOOD DISORDER PATIENTS**

Register with your family as Blood Stem Cell Donors to be a Hero.

Donate Rs 1800 towards your HLA typing test (Human Leukocyte Antigen)

Refer Another Family & Win a Super Family Certificate.
Call us @ **8925531293** or Write to **volunteer@datri.org**
to share us your contribution and refer a family.
www.datri.org/datris-family-campaign



NUMBERS THAT MATTER

(April 2024 - July 2024)



**No of Volunteers engaged
(Total volunteer hours)**
40 (405 hours)



**No of Volunteers who
supported fund raising**
2



**No of Volunteers who supported
social media engagements**
3



**No of Volunteers engaged in
Donor Recruitment Drives**
34



**No of Volunteers who supported
Donor Recipient Meet**
1



Register as a volunteer
www.datri.org/become-datri-volunteer