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**VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER**  
**NOVEMBER 2025**



# MANAGEMENT DESK

**Dear DATRI Volunteers,**

Warm greetings to each one of you.

As we bring you this edition of our volunteer newsletter, we want to begin with a heartfelt thank you. Your dedication, energy, and compassion are the strength behind DATRI's mission. Whether you have been with us for months or years, whether you support us on-ground or online - every effort you make contributes to giving patients with blood cancer and severe blood disorders a second chance at life.

This newsletter is created especially for you - to celebrate your spirit and to share stories of fellow volunteers who, like you, chose to stand for a cause larger than themselves. Their journeys reflect the same passion, empathy, and courage that all our volunteers bring to DATRI every day. We hope these stories remind you of the difference you make and inspire you to continue being a beacon of hope for patients in need.

Volunteering with DATRI is not always about big actions - often, it's the small steps that create lasting impact: a conversation you initiate, a doubt you clarify, a message you share, or a registration you encourage. Each one of those moments has the potential to save a life somewhere.

Thank you for choosing to be part of this mission, for believing in the power of awareness, and for standing with us in building a stronger, more compassionate registry.

You are the heart of DATRI, and this newsletter is a celebration of you.

*Claudia Rutt*

**Claudia Rutt**  
Chief Financial Officer





## TURNING THE TIME YOU CHOOSE TO GIVE, INTO SOMEONE'S SECOND CHANCE AT LIFE

In our busy lives, every moment counts - especially the moments we consciously choose to give. When you dedicate even a little of that time to DATRI, you unlock the power to create extraordinary impact for someone waiting urgently for a matched stem cell donor.

### 1. The Time You Give Can Save a Life

For patients battling leukemia, thalassemia, and other blood disorders, finding a matched donor is as rare as one in a million. When you choose to spend your time spreading awareness or helping with donor registrations, you directly bring hope into a patient's life. Very few acts offer such a clear path from your effort to someone's survival.

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The life-threatening blood disorder diseases are various like Aplastic anemia, Sickle cell anemia and leukemia, Thalassemia etc.

**But the only cure may a BLOOD STEM CELL TRANSPLANT**

### 2. You Become Part of a Cause That Truly Matters

Volunteering with DATRI goes far beyond participating in events. It means standing with patients and families during their most difficult moments and reminding them that they are not alone. You become part of a mission rooted in humanity, empathy, and life-saving action.



### **3. Your Time Shapes Your Growth**

The time you give doesn't just help others - it strengthens you. DATRI volunteers develop:

- Strong communication and public-speaking skills
- Leadership and teamwork capabilities
- Confidence in engaging with diverse groups
- Purpose-driven motivation
- These skills remain with you forever, enriching both your personal and professional journey.

### **4. You Join a Community of Hope-Drivers**

Volunteering introduces you to inspiring individuals - students, professionals, donors, and survivors - all united by the belief that giving is powerful. This community of hope reminds us that kindness creates real change.

### **5. Your Effort Creates Ripples You May Never See**

A single conversation may inspire someone to register. That registration may turn into a match. That match may save a life. And that life may go on to touch countless others. All because you chose to give your time with purpose.

### **6. You Become a Light in Someone's Darkness**

For families praying for a match, you become a symbol of hope. Your voice, your presence, and your willingness to help carry more impact than you may ever realize.

## **HOW YOU CAN MULTIPLY YOUR IMPACT**

As a volunteer, your influence doesn't stop with your own contributions. You have the power to expand our mission by bringing more people into the DATRI family:

### **• Bring Your Friends Along**

Invite your friends to join you at awareness events or registration drives. Volunteering together builds stronger teams and creates greater reach.

### **• Refer Your Colleagues**

Many working professionals want to contribute to a meaningful cause. A simple conversation from you can inspire them to volunteer or register as potential donors.



## • Introduce DATRI to Your Organisation

You can play a key role in connecting DATRI with your college, company, or community group. Let your organisation know you support DATRI - your initiative can lead to:

- Awareness sessions
- Registration drives
- CSR partnerships
- Larger volunteer participation

## • Help Generate Leads for Donor Recruitment Drives

If you know of colleges, clubs, societies, workplaces, or communities that might support the cause, share their details with us. Your connections can help DATRI reach audiences we may not otherwise access.



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: STORIES OF INSPIRATION & IMPACT

### 1. A Bridge of Hope

My name is Sanika Bhilare, and I'm a college student from Pune. I have been associated with DATRI as a blood stem cell donor volunteer for the past few months.

I first heard about DATRI through an awareness session. When I learned that a simple registration could help save someone's life, it truly inspired me. The thought that I could be the reason someone gets a second chance at life motivated me to become a volunteer.

Seeing DATRI's dedication and the impact it creates for patients and families, encouraged me to stay involved. Every story of hope reminds me why I joined - because every effort, no matter how small, brings someone closer to life.



**Sanika Bhilare**  
DATRI's Volunteer



I participated in an awareness campaign where we educated students about blood stem cell donation. It was heartwarming to see many people show interest and register as donors. It made me feel proud that I could help spread awareness and inspire others to join this noble cause.

I usually take part in online awareness campaigns, share DATRI's mission on social media, and encourage my peers to register as potential donors. I also support college-level donor drives whenever possible.

Volunteering with DATRI has helped me become more empathetic and socially aware. I've learned the importance of teamwork, communication, and responsibility while being part of a cause that truly saves lives. Personally, it has made me more confident and compassionate; professionally, it has strengthened my ability to connect with people and create a positive impact on the community.

Through volunteering, I've developed strong communication and leadership skills. I've learned how to confidently speak about social causes, raise awareness, and motivate others to contribute meaningfully.

My most meaningful moment was when someone I spoke to decided to register as a donor. Realizing that my words influenced someone to take a step that could save a life was incredibly fulfilling.

I believe my efforts help DATRI reach more people and spread awareness about the importance of stem cell donation. Every new donor registration contributes to DATRI's mission of giving patients a second chance at life.

The stories of patients who found matching donors and received a new lease on life keep me motivated. Knowing that our collective efforts make a real difference inspires me to continue.

"Being a DATRI volunteer means being a bridge of hope between life and death." "Volunteering with DATRI taught me that even the smallest act of kindness can bring light into someone's darkest days."

## **2. Spreading Awareness, Spreading Hope**

My name is Samiksha Gaikwad, and I have been volunteering with DATRI for the past few months. During this time, I've had the opportunity to create awareness about blood stem cell donation and encourage people to register as donors. Volunteering with DATRI has allowed me to contribute to a cause that truly saves lives.

I first heard about DATRI through a college awareness session. Learning that a simple act like donating stem cells can give someone a second chance at life deeply moved me. I was inspired



to volunteer because I wanted to support patients battling life-threatening diseases like leukemia and thalassemia.

The experience has been incredibly rewarding. Every awareness drive and donor registration event reminds me that our efforts bring hope to patients and their families. The teamwork, encouragement, and positive energy from the DATRI team constantly motivate me to stay involved.

One of my most memorable moments was during a donor registration drive where we interacted with students and encouraged them to join the registry. Seeing so many people show interest and register made me feel proud and fulfilled. It was heartwarming knowing that our small efforts could one day save a life.



**Samiksha Gaikwad**  
DATRI's Volunteer

As a volunteer, I take part in donor registration drives and awareness campaigns. My role includes interacting with people, explaining the importance of blood stem cell donation, and guiding them through the registration process. I also participate in online campaigns using social media to reach a wider audience.

Volunteering with DATRI has helped me grow personally and professionally. I've become more empathetic and aware of the struggles faced by patients in need of transplants. I've also improved my communication, teamwork, and organizational skills, which will be valuable in my future career. This journey has given me confidence and a strong sense of purpose.

Through this experience, I've learned leadership, event management, and public speaking skills. Most importantly, I've learned the value of compassion, patience, and community service.

A touching moment for me was when someone said they were inspired to register as a donor after hearing us speak. That conversation reminded me of the power of awareness.

I believe my contribution supports DATRI's mission by inspiring more people to become blood stem cell donors. Every individual I motivate brings us one step closer to saving a life.

To anyone considering volunteering with DATRI, I would say - it's not just about giving your time; it's about being part of a life-saving mission. You learn, grow, and connect with incredible people while making a real difference.

Being a DATRI volunteer means being a bridge of hope between patients and their second chance at life.



### 3. A Journey of Purpose and Growth

Hi, I'm Sanskar, and I've been a volunteer with DATRI for the past seven months. I first heard about DATRI from Mahafuz Raeen (DATRI's representative), and since then, it has been an incredibly meaningful journey.

Volunteering with DATRI has given me the opportunity to contribute to a noble mission - saving the lives of patients suffering from life-threatening blood disorders like blood cancer, thalassemia, and leukemia. Being part of such a cause fills me with purpose and immense satisfaction.



**Sanskar**  
DATRI's Volunteer

One of my most memorable experiences was participating in a DATRI event where I learned teamwork, improved my communication skills, and understood how even small efforts can make a big difference.

Listening to other volunteers' stories and understanding the urgent need for unrelated matched donors deeply moved me. I realized that each of us can play a vital role in offering someone a second chance at life.

Volunteering with DATRI has been one of the best experiences of my life - a journey of learning, growth, and compassion.

### 4. Growing Through Service

My name is Deepali Eknath Patil, and I have been volunteering with DATRI in Mumbai for the past four months. I first heard about DATRI through a common friend, and it immediately caught my attention. It feels wonderful to know that I can contribute to something meaningful and make a difference in society.



**Deepali Eknath Patil**  
DATRI's Volunteer

In my initial days, I realized how much awareness is still needed about stem cell donation, which motivated me to stay committed. I recently attended a college campaign where many young people showed great enthusiasm to help and save lives. It was inspiring to see the younger generation take such positive initiative.

Participating in college donor drives and blood donation camps has helped me grow personally and professionally. These experiences have boosted my confidence and improved my communication skills, especially while addressing people's questions about the process.



One of my most memorable moments was during a blood donation camp when a participant told me, "You're doing a really great job." That small appreciation made me feel deeply connected to DATRI's mission.

DATRI's mission is to save lives, and every new registration brings us one step closer to finding a match for someone in need. I truly believe my contribution supports this life-saving mission.

Being a DATRI volunteer has given me a new identity - an opportunity to be a helping hand, meet new people, and grow with purpose. My journey so far has been incredible, and I'm grateful for the chance to make a difference.

To anyone thinking about joining DATRI - I would say, go for it! Your effort can truly change someone's life.

## 5. A Donor, A Volunteer, A Lifesaver

I am Akshit Bhardwaj, originally from Uttarakhand and currently studying in Ahmedabad. I've been volunteering with DATRI for the past 4–5 months, but my journey began much earlier as a blood stem cell donor.

I first registered as a potential donor during a college drive organized by DATRI, never imagining that two years later, my stem cells would be a perfect match for a leukemia patient. Going through the donation process and realizing that my small act could save someone's life was truly humbling. That experience inspired me to volunteer with DATRI so others could experience the same opportunity.



**Akshit Bhardwaj**  
DATRI's Volunteer

Since then, I've been part of multiple donor registration camps, each one strengthening my confidence and communication skills. Being both a donor and a volunteer has shown me that even one small step can save a life.

My most meaningful moment wasn't just as a volunteer - it was registering as a donor too, knowing that I could help someone receive a second chance at life.

To anyone thinking about volunteering with DATRI, I would say - go for it. It's one of the most impactful ways to help save lives. As a volunteer, you spread awareness, register potential donors, and become a bridge of hope for patients battling life-threatening disorders.

"You don't need to be a doctor to save a life - sometimes, just your willingness to help is enough."



## 6. A Five-Year Journey to Save a Life

Volunteer-turned-lifesaver Aswanth exemplifies true commitment.

In 2016, during a DATRI donor drive at the College of Commerce, Kannur, Aswanth registered as a potential donor. He didn't know then that this simple act would set him on a five-year journey to saving a life.

A native of Thalassery, Kerala, Aswanth's curiosity soon turned into dedication. By 2019, during his Master's at Christ College, he formally joined the cause, volunteering actively to grow the registry and spread awareness.

His compassion extends beyond stem cell donation. He is also a regular platelet donor, helping cancer patients in his hometown.



**Aswanth**  
DATRI's Volunteer

In 2021, Aswanth was identified as a match for a child diagnosed with a life-threatening blood condition. His PBSC donation was a success, giving the young patient a second chance at life.

*"I was readily available to proceed. Knowing I had the chance to be the cure for a young kid was the most incredible motivation."*

Today, as a teacher in Mysore, he continues supporting DATRI by motivating donors and sharing his real-life experience with newly matched individuals. His dedication reminds us that even with a full-time career, the mission remains close to the heart.

Aswanth's journey - from volunteer to lifesaver - is a powerful reminder of the impact one individual can make.

## 7. A Casual Decision That Saved a Life

Sandra Keloth, an engineering graduate from Thalassery, Kerala, proves that sometimes, the simplest decisions can lead to the greatest impact.

In 2022, while coping with post-COVID student life, she signed up as a potential blood stem cell donor during a DATRI campaign - without much thought. Less than a year later, that casual decision changed someone's life forever.



**Sandra Keloth**  
DATRI's Volunteer



Sandra was identified as a one-in-a-million match for a blood cancer patient in their late 20s. As an only child, she felt a special bond with the idea of giving someone a “blood sibling.” She proceeded without hesitation.

Amazingly, she completed her donation process just days before her board exams - staying calm throughout and even rushing to the exam hall afterward.

Today, Sandra works as a UI/UX Designer at Gadgeon, Kochi, but continues volunteering for DATRI. She often joins last-minute campaigns and supports donor counselling, helping families understand the safety of the process.

Her clarity, courage, and commitment help dispel misconceptions and inspire more young volunteers.

“It is just a simple and safe option to save someone. Being chosen as a donor match is something to be excited about, not confused.”

Sandra’s story is motivating a new wave of volunteers - showing that one spontaneous step can truly transform a life.



## A MESSAGE TO EVERY VOLUNTEER AND EVERY FUTURE VOLUNTEER

Your free time is powerful - it can lift someone out of despair, bring a smile to a family, and give a patient suffering from blood cancer and severe blood disorder a second chance at life. Volunteering with DATRI helps you turn ordinary moments into extraordinary impact.

If you’re looking for a meaningful way to spend your free time, let it be one that leaves the world a little better than you found it. Let it be one that saves lives. Let it be with DATRI.

**Scan here to  
register or refer a  
volunteer**



**DATRI Connect**

