

LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE AND THE CUMBERLANDS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Blood & Bone Marrow Donor Drive Set for Tuesday, Aug. 28

*Downtown Workers, Middle Tennessee Residents to Help Patients in Critical Need;
Women Battling Blood Diseases Helping Organize Effort*

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Aug. 16, 2007 –The Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberland will sponsor a Blood and Bone Marrow Donor Drive on Tuesday, Aug. 28, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Legal Aid Society office at 300 Deaderick St. in downtown Nashville. Interested participants are encouraged to register for the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP), which is accomplished simply by swabbing a person’s inner cheek. Donors also will have the opportunity to give blood to help alleviate the area’s critical supply shortage. Blood Assurance of Chattanooga will be overseeing collections from donors.

Co-workers and friends of Candy Jennings Rucker, a long-time employee of the Metro Courts and Dori Brown, of SunTrust Bank are helping to generate participation in the drive. Both women are motivated to do so. Two years ago, Candy was diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma, a cancer of the lymph tissue; in June, Dori was diagnosed with Acute Myelogenous Leukemia, the most common acute leukemia in adults.

“Bone marrow donor drives are a big reason hematologists across the country are able to find more potential matches for blood cancer patients in need,” said Dr. John Greer, clinical director of hematology and stem cell transplantation at the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. “People who are in Candy’s and Dori’s situation most certainly will benefit in the future from this effort.”

Greer noted due to the NMDP’s ongoing recruitment efforts, more than 27,000 new donors are added to the Registry each month. To join the Registry, people must be between 18 and 61, meet health guidelines, and must be committed to helping any patient in need.

For more information about the NMDP, please visit www.marrow.org.

*Note to Media: Please include this announcement in your community calendars. Please also mark your calendar: A media advisory will be issued with more information on Monday, Aug. 27.
Thank you.*