



PRESS RELEASE

DKMS AND THERE GOES MY HERO PARTNER WITH FRANKLIN TEMPLETON TO GROW THE NUMBER OF POTENTIAL LIFESAVERS IN THE GLOBAL DONOR POOL

DKMS AND THERE GOES MY HERO ARE WORKING TOGETHER WITH FRANKLIN TEMPLETON TO EDUCATE THEIR US-BASED STAFF ON HOW THEY CAN BE LIFESAVERS FOR PATIENTS IN NEED

New, New York, June 24th, 2021 – DKMS, together with There Goes My Hero, is pleased to announce a collaboration with Franklin Templeton, a global investment company, to bring to their “June Impact Days” global month of service the potential to save a life. Inspired by one of their own employee’s personal battle with blood cancer, Franklin Templeton is launching their own virtual stem cell donor drive across four U.S. offices, kicking off on Thursday, June 24th.

Gregg Gorman, VP-International Treasurer, lost his son, Joe, to leukemia after a valiant, two-year battle and not finding a lifesaving donor. Since then, the Gorman family has teamed up with nonprofit There Goes My Hero to host stem cell donor drives in Joe’s honor. This year, Franklin Templeton, inspired by the Gormans, is hosting a virtual drive inviting employees to learn about the cause and consider joining the donor registry.

“We are proud that our June Impact Days events will include an opportunity for employees to consider making this unique and critical type of impact of expanding the donor registry,” says Andrea Bibelheimer, Global Citizenship Manager at Franklin Templeton.

Only one third of blood cancer patients find a matching donor within their family, so the majority must rely on an unrelated donor, whose relevant tissue characteristics, also known as HLA-characteristics, match those of the patient as closely as possible.



There Goes My Hero and DKMS were both established on the grounds of personal stories of families who committed to using their experience to champion the cause of stem cell donation to help other families.

“There Goes My Hero is thrilled to partner with Franklin Templeton and DKMS. This drive illustrates the power of Joe’s legacy; that his father’s colleagues want to honor him by helping save a life for someone in need. Because of Joe, over 5,000 people have joined the registry’ shared Mary Kaye DiUbaldo, executive director of There Goes My Hero.

The DKMS story began when Mechtild Harf was told that the only treatment for her leukemia was a bone marrow transplant and that she had no matching family members. At the time, there were only 3,000 potential stem cell donors on the German registry to provide a transplant. Her husband, Peter Harf, founded DKMS in 1991 and within one year, the registry counted 68,000 potential donors. Unfortunately, Mechtild did not survive, but before she passed away, she made Peter promise her that he would not stop fighting until every patient had a matching donor.

With over 10.7 million available donors and over 92,000 transplants facilitated, DKMS is the largest network of donor centers in the world. The impact of the organization is remarkable, with 40% of all unrelated blood stem cell transplants worldwide made possible by DKMS donors. This collaboration enables DKMS to contribute their experience in raising awareness of blood cancer and blood stem cell transplantation, and to potentially provide even more high-quality blood stem cell products to patients all over the world.

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About DKMS

DKMS is an international non-profit organization dedicated to the fight against blood cancer. Founded in 1991 in Germany by Dr. Peter Harf, DKMS has expanded internationally by establishing entities in the US, Poland, the UK, Chile, Africa and together with BMST in India. Together, they have registered more than 10.7 million potential blood stem cell donors and have given more than 92,000 patients across the globe a second chance at life by facilitating blood stem cell transplants.

About There Goes My Hero

There Goes My Hero is a community based non profit organization, based in Baltimore, that helps Save Lives. Provide Hope. Help those impacted by blood cancer. Established in 2009 by Erik Sauer, whose life was saved by a 19 year old woman in Germany who he never met but whose selfless act saved his life.

About Franklin Templeton

Franklin Resources, Inc. [NYSE:BEN], is a global investment management organization with subsidiaries operating as Franklin Templeton and serving clients in over 165 countries. Franklin Templeton’s mission is to help clients achieve better outcomes through investment management expertise, wealth management and technology solutions. Through its specialist investment managers, the company brings extensive capabilities in equity, fixed income, multi-asset solutions and alternatives. With offices in more than 30 countries and approximately 1,300 investment professionals, the California-based company has over 70 years of investment experience and approximately \$1.5 trillion in assets under management as of May 31, 2021. For more information, please visit franklintempleton.com and follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).