

BUILDING TEAM CULTURE AND SAVING LIVES

Gift of Life's Play Your Part initiative provides a simple and easy way for athletic teams to host stem cell registry drives that give student-athletes the opportunity to help save lives. These recruitment drives directly help our organization in the fight against cancer and inherited immune conditions.

Coaches make the difference

Your teams have the power to lead and serve both on and off the field. Participating in Gift of Life's Play Your Part initiative is a meaningful cause that strengthens team unity and reinforces shared values. Players who participate make a visible impact in their community by saving lives. **All it takes is a simple cheek swab that takes less than five minutes!**

Get started in four easy steps

Step 1: Register your Organization

Email Jordan Ledyard at JLedyard@giftoflife.org.

Step 2: Pick a Day

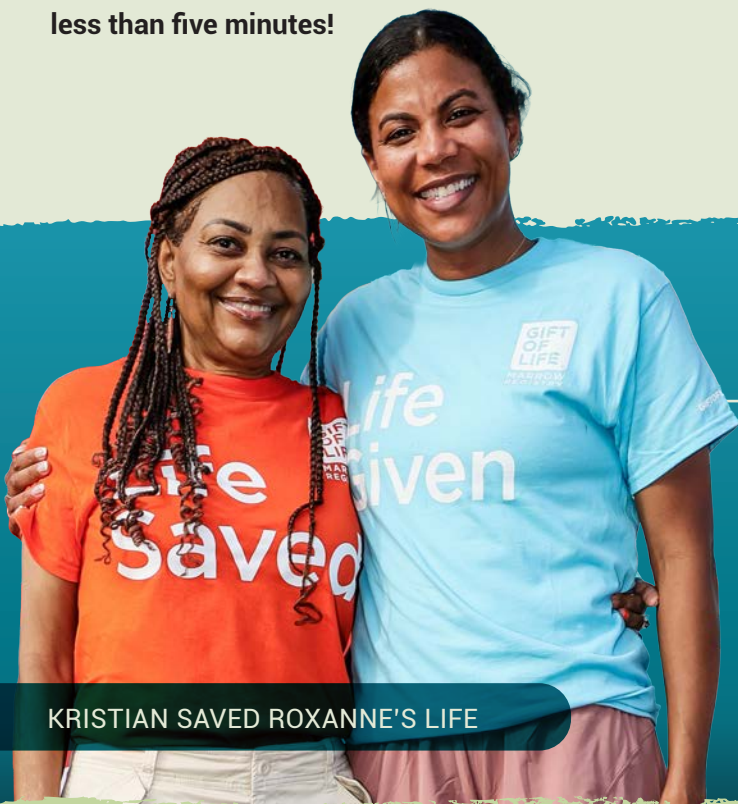
Let us know when you would like to host your swab drive.

Step 3: Swab

Pass out the swab kits to any team members who agree to become potential donors.

Step 4: Return

Once all swabs are completed send them back to us.



KRISTIAN SAVED ROXANNE'S LIFE

OUR SCOREBOARD*

6,829 ATHLETES
SWABBED

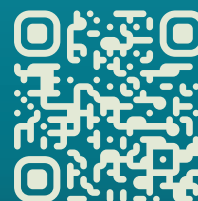
246 MATCHES
FOUND

21 LIVES SAVED
SO FAR

*As of October 1, 2026

Interested in participating?

Learn more and get your
team involved today!



TRUSTED BY ATHLETIC PROGRAMS NATIONWIDE





PLAY
YOUR PART

FROM PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE TO PERSONAL HERO

Lucas James, 16, was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia after a period of nightly fevers. He and his family were shocked and saddened by the diagnosis, but there was still hope: a stem cell donation.

After searching the donor registry, a potential match was found. Patrick Shoemay, a 27-year-old professional lacrosse player, had joined the registry in 2019 while attending the Rochester Institute of Technology. Inspired by a teammate's donation in 2018, RIT's entire lacrosse team joined the registry, Patrick included. Six years after joining, Patrick got the call that he was a match for young Lucas.

After a successful donation and Lucas' recovery, the two met for the first time at the March 29 Tampa Bay Lightning home game.



**A simple cheek swab
can save a life**
Patrick saved Lucas' life



Joining the registry is as easy as a simple swab of your cheek. Eligible donors must be between the ages of 18-35 and in general good health, meet the guidelines and be willing to donate to any patient, at any time, worldwide. **Scan here for more** →

