The Five Points of Life Foundation commits to increasing lifesaving donations through leadership in education, partnerships, awareness and advocacy on the five ways to share life: blood, apheresis, bone marrow, cord blood and organs and tissues.

Annually, we teach more than 25,000 students about blood donation because:

• Every two seconds somebody needs a blood transfusion.
• Only 10 percent of those eligible to donate blood do so regularly.
• Blood cannot be made artificially. It must be given by a lifesaving donor.

We teach students about blood components and the apheresis process because:

• Platelets are used for cancer patients and heart surgery.
• Plasma helps trauma and burn patients, transplant recipients and patients with clotting disorders.
• Platelets only last five days, so donations are always needed.

We partner with LifeSouth’s cord blood bank to build awareness because:

• Cord blood can be used to treat more than 80 diseases.
• Cord blood doesn’t need to match as closely as bone marrow, making it easier to find a match.
• More people would donate cord blood if they knew it was free, painless and saves lives.

We register potential marrow donors at all Five Points of Life events because:

• Bone marrow and stem cells are used to treat more than 30,000 patients each year.
• Bone marrow transfusions can treat many diseases, including cancer.
• 70 percent of patients have no donor match in their family.

We educate high school students on organ and tissue donation because:

• 120,000 people in the U.S. are waiting for an organ transplant.
• 30 people in the U.S. die each day waiting for a transplant.
• Bringing attention to the need for organ and tissue donation increases the number of available donors.

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