

Using Social Media to Reach your Legislators

Social media is an excellent tool for connecting with your local policy makers. Sites like Facebook and Twitter can be used to alert your district's representative about an important [Be The Match®](#) event, or expand on public conversations and current events.

To find your local representatives on social media, visit their websites. If they are active social media users, you will likely find links to their social media pages.

Following are some tips for engaging legislators through social media:

- Post questions to legislators on Facebook or send a tweet via Twitter.
- Share a recent news story about marrow donation.
- Share information about a district event, like a Be The Match Walk+Run or donor registry drive.
- If you meet with a legislator, share a photo or message on social media about the visit.
- On Twitter, be sure to follow your legislators and use relevant hashtags in your posts.
- If you Tweet or post about a legislator, be sure to use their Twitter handle (@member) in your post, or link to them in your Facebook message (@name). That way, the legislator will be able to see your post.

The sample messages below can be used to engage your local legislators in conversation about the need for marrow donors.

Sample Messages

Facebook

- Hi [legislator's name], every four minutes one person is diagnosed with a blood cancer. There are hundreds of patients in our state searching for a marrow or umbilical cord blood donor. I hope you'll support Be The Match, the nonprofit organization that's helping connect patients with committed donors. You can learn more here: www.BeTheMatch.org.
- Hi [legislator's name], there's a great event on [date] in your district to support Be The Match. Hundreds of local residents will gather at [location] this weekend to show support for patients battling life-threatening blood cancers during the Be The Match Walk+Run. It's a fun way to see the life-saving work of Be The Match. Learn more at www.BeTheMatchWalkRun.org.

Twitter

- @TWITTERHANDLE Every 10 mins someone dies from a blood cancer. Plz support @BeTheMatch, which works to find patients matching marrow donors.
 - @TWITTERHANDLE I just joined the @BeTheMatch Registry for all of the [state] patients battling blood cancer. Plz support them too!
 - @TWITTERHANDLE Join hundreds of your constituents at [race location] for this year's #BTMWalkRun, raising awareness for marrow donation.
-