**Template Letters to the Editor**

Newspapers often print readers’ letters to the editor, providing additional information about the publication’s recent news stories. They provide a great opportunity to increase awareness about [Be The Match’s®](http://www.bethematch.org) life-saving efforts.

When submitting a letter to the editor, keep in mind to:

* Keep the letter short. Letters to the editor are usually no more than 150 – 250 words. Your newspaper should have submission guidelines available on its website that will tell you the maximum number of words they accept.
* Include a call to action. This could be as simple as urging your local lawmakers for their support, or asking the public to get involved by visiting [BeTheMatch.org](http://bethematch.org/).

***Sample Letters to the Editor***

**Letter submission about a patient or donor story, or donor registry drive**

As a committed member of the Be The Match Registry®, I found the recent article about [patient’s name/donor registry drive] especially inspiring. Although there are 11 million people listed on the registry now, there’s more that can be done.

Adding more potential donors to the registry is critical to saving more lives ([BeTheMatch.org/join](http://www.bethematch.org/join)). If you’re already a member, consider contacting our local representatives and sharing your personal reasons for joining. You can inspire the continued congressional support of Be The Match®.

Federal financial support from Congress is critical for Be The Match to continue adding new potential donors to the Be The Match Registry, helping patients with uninsured treatment costs and expenses and conducting transplant research to improve outcomes – and ultimately, saving lives.

[Name]

[Passionate Advocate]

[City[

[Work/Cell Phone Numbers]

**Letter submission about personal donation or transplant milestone**

[X years ago], I was battling a life-threatening disease called [disease name] and needed a marrow or umbilical cord blood transplant to survive. Fortunately, a selfless stranger listed on the Be The Match Registry®—the largest listing of marrow donors and umbilical cord blood units in the world—committed to saving my life.

This milestone reminds me that there are thousands of people currently searching for a matching donor. Ordinary people can be someone’s cure when they join the Be The Match Registry ([BeTheMatch.org/join](http://www.bethematch.org/join)).

If you’re already a member of the registry, consider contacting our local representatives and sharing your reasons for joining. You can inspire the continued congressional support of Be The Match®.

Federal financial support from Congress is critical for Be The Match to continue adding new potential donors to the Be The Match Registry, helping patients with uninsured treatment costs and expenses and conducting transplant research to improve outcomes – and ultimately, saving lives.

Thank you to everyone who supports this cause.

[Name]

[Marrow/Cord Blood Transplant Recipient]

[City]

[Work/Cell Phone Numbers]

**Letter submission about a Be The Match Walk+Run (with a legislative angle)**

Hundreds of local residents will gather at [race location] this weekend to show support for patients battling life-threatening blood cancers during the Be The Match® Walk+Run. Every step of this 5K run/walk helps people receive the marrow or umbilical cord blood transplant they need by raising money and awareness for Be The Match.

Be The Match is the world’s leading nonprofit organization focused on delivering cures to blood cancer patients. If you’re already planning on attending this fun benefit run, consider contacting our local representatives and sharing your reasons for participating in the event.

You can inspire the continued congressional support of Be The Match. Federal financial support from Congress is critical for Be The Match to continue adding new potential donors to the Be The Match Registry®, helping patients with uninsured treatment costs and expenses and conducting transplant research to improve outcomes – and ultimately, saving lives.

[Name]

[Passionate Advocate]

[City[

[Work/Cell Phone Numbers]