



Association Laurette Fugain

information sur la leucémie, le don de plaquettes et de moelle osseuse, aide à la recherche sur les maladies du sang

«WALK FOR LEUKAEMIA»

NICE, PROMENADE DES ANGLAIS on 18th May 2008

On Sunday, 18th May, the Laurette Fugain Association is organising a major event to raise awareness and encourage blood & bone marrow donations. This 6th annual event will take place simultaneously in Paris, Lyon, Toulouse, Bordeaux, Marseille and Nice.

On the occasion of this fourth Niçois event, we invite you to join us at 2.30 pm on 18th May, on the Promenade des Anglais, opposite the Albert 1er public gardens (at the level of the “Théâtre de Verdure” and the Casino Ruhl). Whether you are on foot, on roller skates, or on your bikes, come and swell our ranks dancing and singing all the way to the Hôpital Lénval and help us spread the word about the crucial importance of donating blood, platelets and bone marrow to help treat and combat leukaemia.

This walk is being organised with the support of the French Blood Bank (Etablissement Français du Sang) and the sponsorship of the Health & Solidarity Ministry.

In addition, the “Harmonie Toot Sweet” choir will sing American barbershop style jazz songs, leading the way with its dynamic communication, helping us carry a message of hope and support to sufferers and their families.



Who are the organisers of the Annual Walk ? :

The local Côte d'Azur branch of the Laurette Fugain Association, composed of volunteers from the Alpes Maritimes and the Var, organises this annual event in Nice to demonstrate to patients suffering from leukaemia and to their families that a support structure is being developed around them to provide help and sustain hope and motivation. The objective of the association is to help raise awareness and communicate the need to donate blood and bone marrow, undertaking information sessions in different company workplaces and educational establishments, to reach as many people as possible.

What is the purpose of organising the Annual Walk ?

The treatments proposed to patients today to combat cancer depend heavily on the **availability of blood platelets**, and for many blood cancers such as leukaemia, these also require **availability of compatible stem cells** (bone marrow and umbilical cord). The availability is solely dependent on the generosity of donors since there are **no known substitutes** for these blood components and without them, there is no hope of a cure for the patients. Thus platelets and stem cells play a vital and essential role in saving the lives of thousands of patients.

This Annual Walk has a triple objective in raising awareness of young people about the importance of donating platelets, namely :

- To ensure that patients requiring platelet transfusions no longer have to wait for treatment
- To help lower the average age of donors who give blood and bone marrow on a regular basis
- To help transform this act into a spontaneous and natural gesture, from one fellow human to another

This Annual Walk on 18th May, accompanied by the Harmonie Toot Sweet choir and musicians, together with Carabistouille, the Clown and in the presence of dozens of children on their bikes and roller skates will be a truly positive event, young, dynamic, enthusiastic and full of life. It is for these very reasons that the local Côte d'Azur branch of the Association Laurette Fugain wishes to mobilise all efforts.

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