

January 1, 2016

Dear Branch President:

Since the inception of the Live to Give Committee in 2011, over 100 units of blood and several units of platelets have been donated through this program. This is a huge success in many ways and has now become an annual tradition at our Conventions. This is a vital and very worthwhile Program and we have been working on more ways for your Branch to participate. We now have a Live to Give Blood Donation Card which works in the same manner as our other I.C.F. Programs. You can order cards by calling the I.C.F. Office.

This program will enable your Branch to start blood drives in your local Parishes. Hosting a blood drive in your Parish is an excellent way to promote the I.C.F. and your Branch and possibly attain new members. For example, a perfect time to have a blood drive would be on a Sunday so your parishioners can donate after attending Mass. Mobil blood banks are available in your area and with the permission of your Pastor, these mobile blood banks can come right to your Church. If your branch chooses to host a blood drive, please assign a Chairperson and Committee. Laurice Levine, Thalassemia Outreach Coordinator for Children's Hospital Oakland and Consultant to this committee, as well as myself and committee members, will work with your Chairperson and assist with all steps necessary to coordinate a successful blood drive.

Each month you have read enlightening, thought-provoking articles in the Bollettino, provided by Laurice Levine, and Live to Give Committee members. Working together, we now have an excellent opportunity to put some of that growing knowledge and education into action. We ask that you pray over this; talk about it with your Branch members and find that special person who is willing to help this universal cause.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to your response and wish each one of you much joy and happiness during the New Year.

***God's blessings and peace,***

***Robert Basuino***

***Live To Give Committee Chairperson, Past Grand President and CC Life Member***