

## Do You Want to Save Lives?

Dear Branch Presidents,

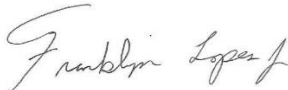
In 2011, under the direction of then ICF Grand President Jane Dianda, the Live to Give Committee was born. The Committee began with the mission to promote blood donation and also to provide additional support to patients with Cooley's Anemia, who require routine blood transfusions to survive.

The Goals of the Live to Give Committee are as follows:

- Raise awareness and promote the importance of donating blood.
- Dispel myths that exist about blood and blood donation in the ICF community.
- Write monthly articles for the ICF Bollettino to educate the community.
- Pay it forward ó give blood to replenish the blood supply.
- Give blood in honor of someone, something, or a disease such as Cooley's Anemia or Cancer. Along these linesí designating donated blood for a specific individual is problematic and costly so, what is recommended instead is donating blood in honor of a person or an occasion. We created the ICF Live to Give Postcard for this reason ó to give blood in honor of or in memory of someone or to celebrate an occasion.
- Plan an annual blood drive at Convention. In the past 7 years we have collected 202 units, saving 606 lives!
- Encourage and assist Branches and Districts in planning blood drives.

The last goal is why I am writing to you today. Will your Branch consider planning a blood drive at your church or in your community with our help? We have attached information on how to plan a blood drive as well as a list of blood banks by District. If you can provide a location, we will do everything we can to help and make your Branch's blood drive a success. Please contact me at [FLopes@icf.org](mailto:FLopes@icf.org) or Laurice Levine at [LLevine430@aol.com](mailto:LLevine430@aol.com) if you are interested. Thank you for your time and consideration. Together, we can save lives!

Sincerely,



Franklyn Lopes, Jr.  
Central Council Member  
Live to Give Committee Chair