



2017 Press Release
Give Blood Play Hockey
www.givebloodplayhockey.com
Contact Information:
Mary Quayle-Korus – Founder and Director of Marketing
maryakorus@gmail.com

GIVE BLOOD PLAY HOCKEY TO HOST 11TH ANNUAL CHARITY HOCKEY TOURNAMENT AND BLOOD DRIVE WORKING TOWARDS \$1,000,000 DONATION

GIVE BLOOD PLAY HOCKEY – QUICK MEDIA FACTS.

ABOUT:

Give Blood Play Hockey is an all-volunteer, **Charity Roller Hockey Tournament** and **Blood Drive**. Our 11th annual event will be hosted **October 19th – 22nd 2017** @ The Rinks Irvine: 3150 Barranca Parkway, Irvine CA.

OUR MISSION: Give Blood. Play Hockey. Fight Cancer

WHO WE SUPPORT: We are proud to support [CHOC Children's](#) and The [Casey Strale Foundation](#) at the [Translational Genomics Research Institute \(Tgen\)](#) with the goal of finding better treatments and cures for cancer and providing support to improve quality of life. 100% of funds raised going to the cause.

WHY WE DO IT: Unfortunately, everyone has a story of how cancer has affected their lives. Give Blood Play Hockey's goal is to give everyone a chance to share their story, to support a love one, to learn about new treatments and cures. We ask all participants **"Who Do You Play For?"**

OUR HISTORY IN NUMBERS:

- 1) Donated **\$751,482** to CHOC Children's Hospital – In 2018, we will surpass \$1,000,000 donation
- 2) Collected **2573 Pints** of life saving blood – enough to save 7,000 lives
- 3) **Eleven years** of making an impact in the community.
- 4) Each year, **a hundred+ teams play** from 6 under to adult teams, professional to beginners
- 5) **30+ Corporate Sponsors and Vendors**

2017 NEWS WORTHY STORIES:

- 1) [Quadruplet Brothers](#) Take On Leadership Roles in the Fight Against Cancer as High School Seniors
- 2) Give Blood Play Hockey Kids Beat Cancer: [Niko Greco](#) (8) and [Scarlette Tipton](#) (3) are Cancer Free
- 3) Orange County Charity Hockey Tournament Eyes Major Milestones: \$1M Dollar Donation and 3000 Pints of Blood Collected
- 4) Give Blood Play Hockey Expands Reach: Charity Hockey Tournament Raises Money for [CHOC Children's Hospital](#) and [Translational Genomics Research Institute \(TGen\)](#)
- 5) Blood Supply Critical as Country Battles Natural Disasters and National Tragedies, The Orange County Hockey Community Comes Together To Donate Blood.



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Largest charity roller hockey tournament on the planet continues to raise funds and awareness for cancers and blood disorders October 19th – 22nd, 2017 at The Rinks in Irvine, California.

Irvine, CA – October 1, 2017 – Give Blood Play Hockey Charity Hockey Tournament is the largest of its kind. This four-day event benefiting [CHOC Children's Hospital](#) and [Translational Genomics Research Institute \(TGen\)](#) continues the fight against cancer. Our objective is to help find a cure for the 13,500 children under the age of 19 who are diagnosed with cancer each year in the U.S.

Since founding in 2007, the organization has donated more than \$750,000 to CHOC Children's. Give Blood Play Hockey donated a patient room and a medication station in the new wing of the hospital. Funds now are directed to research and development to find cures and treatments. The passion to found, operate and run this important event stems from cancer hitting too close to home.

Hockey enthusiasts and the Southern California community come to this event with pride and excitement year after year. Our 4-day event hosts over 100 teams in 18 divisions, all-competing for the coveted Blood Cup Trophy. Over 3,000 spectators watch competitive hockey, are entertained by the Skills Competition, Wild Wing, CHOCO Bear, the Anaheim Ducks Power Players and Street Team and the Top Flight special needs hockey players. Our fans shop dozens of vendors, contribute to our silent auction and raffle, and are fed by top rated restaurants and food trucks.

In 2013, Give Blood Play Hockey's tournament ambassador, Casey Strale, lost his four year battle to an extremely rare cancer with little history of striking children. In Casey's honor, beginning at the 2017 event, we will be introducing a co-benefactor, TGen, a Phoenix-based non-profit 501(c)(3) organization focused on developing earlier diagnostics and smarter treatments for cancers and other diseases. "Because of inspirations like Casey Strale, we know we must continue to support families in Orange County through their child's fight, for the past several years, Nico Greco (7) and Scarlett Tipton (3 ½) have been a part of the Give Blood Play Hockey family, and this year we are excited to celebrate both being cancer free", says tournament founder, Mary Quayle-Korus.

In addition to raising funds, each year a series of blood drives are organized in the community, our largest spans the four day event inspired by our tournament founder's grandfather, who benefited from multiple blood transfusions during his cancer treatment. To date, 2573 pints of blood have been collected, 481 pints in 2016 alone. Give Blood Play Hockey is committed to spreading awareness about the importance of donating blood. "LifeStream blood bank is proud to partner with Give Blood Play Hockey to bring attention to the vital role volunteer blood donors play in the battle against pediatric cancer," said Tony Holder, LifeStream Area Representative.



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“Each blood donation has the power to help save up to three lives, and Give Blood Play Hockey deserves enormous credit for touching thousands of lives through its advocacy for this selfless cause. Now we gather again to rally support for our children, and to help save lives. We encourage the community to make a meaningful contribution toward this effort by joining the heroic team of blood donors from October 20th through the 22nd.”

Give Blood Play Hockey has provided more than financial and blood donations, the organization continues to encourage young people in the community to make a difference. Each year, High School juniors and senior students apply for leadership positions within the organization and serve on our executive committee. In 2017, quadruplet brothers, High School seniors at Foothill High School, step into leadership roles as student chair people. The Gardner quads have played in the tournament since the beginning. Each are bringing a unique skill to the organization including driving social media efforts, recruiting vendors and building one-of-a-kind pieces for our silent auction and raffle.

Our “No Hair Don’t Care” campaign has inspired dozens of individuals to donate their hair for wigs through the [Locks of Love](#) and continues to be a very popular event hosted on Sunday at the event. “This year, we will have a young lady giving her hair to those in need as a way to celebrate her eighth birthday, it is so inspirational. Proves everyone can make a difference,” says Quayle-Korus.

Give Blood Play Hockey is a proud contributor to the Southern California Community and CHOC Children’s and Tgen. Dr. Leonard Sender, Director of the Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Cancer Program at CHOC Children’s stated, “Kids are dying because we just didn’t put enough effort into it?” Brent Dethlefs, Executive Director, CHOC Children’s Research Institute stated “Heartfelt thanks for “Give Blood Play Hockey” for their continued support of these efforts to make a positive difference in the lives of our children and families fighting cancer at CHOC – and around the world.”

In 2017, Give Blood is expanding its reach to support Tgen. “Inspired by young Casey Strale and with leadership from Give Blood Play Hockey, TGen will accelerate research into the rare cancer that took Casey’s life,” said Michael Bassoff, President of the TGen Foundation. “TGen is among the few research institutions specializing in Adrenocortical Cancer (ACC), a rare cancer of the adrenal cortex that affects only 1 to 2 people in a million.”

TGen scientists and physicians are dedicated to better understanding the molecular basis of this cancer, and using that knowledge to identify new therapies to treat and eventually defeat, this rare and deadly disease.

For more information, please visit www.givebloodplayhockey.org or reach out to quayle.mary@gmail.com or 714-679-5180