



**HAWAII MEDICAL CENTER**

February 1, 2010

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**EIGHT-YEAR OLD SEEKING LIFE SAVING MATCH**

***\*\*Hawaii Bone Marrow Donor Registry Holding Donor Drives in February\*\****

HONOLULU – Eight-year old Mitchell Ganeku needs your help. The Manoa Elementary 3<sup>rd</sup> grader has been diagnosed with aplastic anemia, and is desperately in need of a bone marrow transplant. By registering as a bone marrow donor, you could potentially help save his life or someone else's.

To help find a donor for Ganeku, and others in need of transplants, the Hawaii Bone Marrow Donor Registry will be holding various donor drives in February.

**Kaiser Permanente Sports Health & Fitness Expo**

Neal S. Blaisdell Center Exhibition Hall

777 Ward Avenue

Friday, Saturday, Sunday – February 12 to 14, 2010

Feb. 12 – 4:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Feb. 13 – 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Feb. 14 – 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Mayor's Jamboree**

Manoa District Park (near Mauka Gym)

2721 Kaaipu Ave.

Saturday, February 20, 2010

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Hawaii Pacific University**

Windward Campus (Lobby)

45-045 Kamehameha Highway

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**80<sup>th</sup> Annual Kamehameha Schools Ho'olaulea**

Kapalama Campus

1887 Makuakane St.

Saturday, February 27, 2010  
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Donors must be between the ages of 18 and 60 and in good general health. Donors need only to register once. If you have already registered and need to update your information or would like more information about becoming a donor, please call the Registry at 547-6154 or visit our national website at [www.marrow.org](http://www.marrow.org)

The Hawaii Bone Marrow Donor Registry was founded in 1989 and joined the National Marrow Donor Program to help patients in Hawaii and all over the world find healthy and willing bone marrow or blood stem cell donors. Only 30 percent of patients will find matching donors within their families; therefore, others need to find unrelated matches. Matches are more easily found between people of the same ethnic background. Since 1989, the HBMDR has recruited approximately 68,000 registered donors throughout Hawaii, Guam, and American Samoa. Over 251 of those donors have actually donated bone marrow or blood stem cells for patients all over the world.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Please see attached photo of Mitchell Ganeku.