Give Today and Save a Life Tomorrow

How can my baby's cord blood help someone else?

A cord blood unit is the term used for the blood collected from the umbilical cord and placenta (after birth) when a healthy baby is born. Cord blood is rich in blood-forming cells that can be used in transplants for patients with leukemia, lymphoma and many other life-threatening diseases. It can be especially useful for transplant patients from racially and ethnically diverse backgrounds, who often have difficulty finding a transplant match.

Options for Cord Blood Banking

You have 3 options for the use of your child's cord blood:

Public Cord Blood Banking – You can offer the gift of life to others by choosing to donate your baby's cord blood for public use. Your cord blood will be stored in a public bank so that it can be transplanted into *any* patient that is considered a match: not only here in Arkansas but, throughout the world. There is no cost to you because public cord blood banks cover the cost of processing, testing and storing donated cord blood.

Private Cord Blood Banking – Private banking allows you to store the cord blood for your own family. You are charged a fee for the initial collection plus an annual storage fee. Please contact the Cord Blood Coordinator toll free at 1-855-854-2222 or 501-686-6271 for current rates and fees. (As of 6/01/2011, $1399.00 covers the initial collection and 1 year of storage, the storage rate is $120.00/yr after that. Rates are subject to change).

Research Cord Blood Banking – By choosing this option you are allowing us to use your cord blood to further research studies. Research laboratories and technology companies conduct studies to help improve the transplant process for future patients, and to discover new ways to use the cells to help repair damaged organs.

TO GET STARTED: Contact the Cord Blood Coordinator at 1-855-854-2222 (CBBA) or 501-686-6271 between 8:00 – 3:30 by your 34th week of pregnancy to arrange for Cord Blood Banking.

See _____ for more information.