

## WHAT TO EXPECT?

The procedure is very much like donating whole blood; the primary difference is that a small needle is placed in both arms. Only a slight pinch is felt at insertion. Most donors find the experience highly rewarding and eagerly look forward to donating again every two weeks.

Unlike whole blood, which takes only 10- to 12 minutes, donating platelets takes between one and a half- to two hours. During the process, donors relax in a comfortable recliner and watch TV or the movie of their choice. Other times, donors enjoy socializing with staff members they have come to know as dear friends.

Within five days of your donation, your platelets will be transfused into a child or adult battling cancer or leukemia. During necessary, but harsh chemotherapy and radiation treatments, platelets are often destroyed; your gift of healthy platelets will help a patient's blood clot and prevent fatal hemorrhaging.

Your body will replace the donated platelets in three- to seven days.

## AM I ELIGIBLE?

Although only five percent of those in our community donate blood, most are eligible. If you are 17 or older, weigh at least 110 pounds, are in good physical health, and have donated whole blood at least once, you could be a platelet donor.



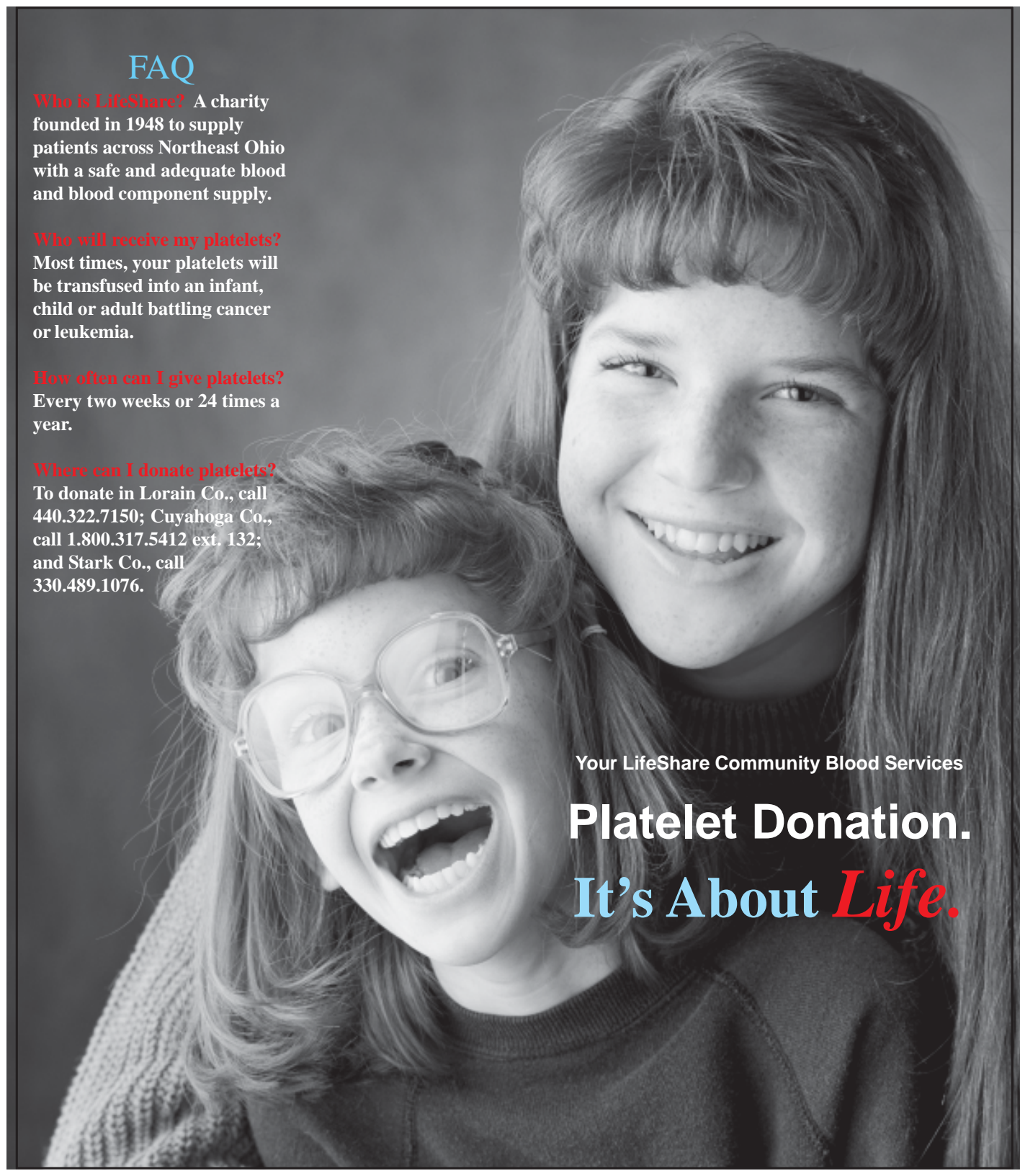
## FAQ

**Who is LifeShare?** A charity founded in 1948 to supply patients across Northeast Ohio with a safe and adequate blood and blood component supply.

**Who will receive my platelets?** Most times, your platelets will be transfused into an infant, child or adult battling cancer or leukemia.

**How often can I give platelets?** Every two weeks or 24 times a year.

**Where can I donate platelets?** To donate in Lorain Co., call 440.322.7150; Cuyahoga Co., call 1.800.317.5412 ext. 132; and Stark Co., call 330.489.1076.



Your LifeShare Community Blood Services

**Platelet Donation.**  
**It's About *Life.***

## DOES IT HURT TO DONATE?

No. Besides a very light pinch when the needle is inserted, there is no discomfort and most donors have no adverse reactions.

## HOW ELSE CAN I HELP?

We rely on mobile blood drives to provide over 50 percent of our blood supply. Please host a blood drive through your school, business, social or civic organization, or house-of-worship. Call toll-free: 1. 888. 543. 3742.

LifeShare is a nonprofit organization and is deeply grateful for financial gifts of any size. Please contact the director of public relations and development at 440. 322. 5700 ext. 126.

Employees at LifeShare are hard at work 24-hours a day, but maintaining the highest quality products and services is a team effort that includes a dedicated group of volunteers. Ask any member of our staff how to become a volunteer.

The need for blood and components is increasing about 10 percent each year and donations are scarcely keeping pace; please ask a friend, co-worker or family member to join you when donating blood or platelets.

**LifeShare.**  
**It's About *Life*.**

[www.lifeshare.cc](http://www.lifeshare.cc)

## PLEASE ACCEPT OUR APPRECIATION.

We are grateful to those who share their time and good health with patients in need of platelets. As small tokens of appreciation, platelet donors receive gifts to commemorate milestones in giving.

For the first donation, a 100-percent cotton platelet donor T-shirt is offered. For the fifth donation, a lighted key fob; for the 10th, a low-profile, embroidered baseball cap or bucket cap; for the 25th, a handsome, engraved pewter rollerball pen is received; for the 50th, an embroidered, 100-percent cotton golf shirt; for the 75th, a heavyweight, embroidered sweatshirt; for the 100th, a high-quality, brushed cotton, embroidered golf jacket is awarded; for the 150th donation, an embroidered fleece stadium blanket; at the 200th, a screen-printed soft cooler bag is given; at the 250th, an embroidered duffel bag is received; and, at the 300th, a handsome engraved clock is awarded.

## WHAT HOSPITALS DO YOU SERVE?

We're the only blood provider to every hospital and Cancer Center in Lorain Co. and sole supplier to Mercy Medical Center and Doctors Hospital in Stark Co. We also supply one-third of all the blood needed across the vast University Hospitals Health System and are generous supplemental suppliers to the Cleveland Clinic...to name only a few!

After diagnosing the 8-month-old with leukemia, Natalie's pediatrician rushed her to the hospital in his own car. She needed a bone marrow transplant and blood transfusions. During her first six weeks of chemotherapy, she used 27 units (donations) of platelets and red blood cells. Thanks to the kindness of donors, Natalie has every chance for a long and healthy future.



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