



Boy With Leukemia Meets Bone Marrow Donor

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KANSAS CITY, Mo. –

Doctors said a 9-year-old boy was going to die, but a total stranger saved his life by donating bone marrow.

KMBC's Bev Chapman was at Children's Meeting for the emotional meeting between Weston Funk and his bone marrow donor, Keith Bozeman.

Funk was diagnosed with a rare and fatal form of leukemia two years ago.

He had never met his donor until Friday.

"Thank you for saving my life," Funk told Bozeman.

Bozeman and his family came all the way from Alabama for the meeting. He said he hopes others will also donate.

"I would encourage everyone who can to show up tomorrow and get on the registry. It will make a big difference. It has for me and my whole family," Bozeman said.

"One good desire can lead to what we see today before our eyes," Dr. Jignesh Dalal said.

Weston gave Bozeman flowers and a sample of his artwork.

His parents said they are eternally grateful.

"For such a horrific experience for moms and brothers, this shows you a wonderful experience still can be had," mother Regina Funk said.

"What you've done for us, we can't thank you enough. We'll do our best this weekend to show our appreciation," father Randy Funk said.

The two families will spend time together this weekend.

Bozeman said he got on the bone marrow registry in 1997 to help a co-worker.

Grace United Methodist Church in Olathe is underwriting the Bozemans' trip.

The church is also sponsoring a bone marrow registry drive on June 16 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Grace United Methodist Church, 520 Harrison St., Olathe, KS.



When Weston Funk of Overland Park (left) was diagnosed with a rare leukemia, Keith Bozeman of Winfield, Ala., supplied stem cells to help with Weston's treatment. Weston and the donor met Friday.