



The Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) is the nation's premier organization providing fundraising assistance to families facing a life-saving transplant. COTA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, so contributions are deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Since 1986 millions of dollars have been raised across the country for thousands of children and young adults needing an organ, bone marrow or stem cell transplant. COTA also works with individuals of any age with a single cell genetic disorder, such as Polycystic Kidney Disease, Cystic Fibrosis or Sickle Cell Anemia.

100% of funds raised in honor of COTA families are used for transplant-related expenses, such as lodging, transportation, insurance premiums, household expenses, prescriptions and medical care. COTA does not charge a fee for its services, and the funds raised are available for the COTA patient's lifetime.

Contact COTA to learn how fundraising can help your family avoid financial ruin.

Call COTA today at 800.366.2682.

Giving Hope ... Making Miracles

**Children's Organ
Transplant Association®**

2501 West COTA Drive • Bloomington, Indiana 47403

COTA.org 800.366.2682



/COTAFans



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Children's Organ Transplant Association®

Giving Hope ... Making Miracles

5 May 2015

Mr. Frank Stancil, Adjutant
The American Legion, Department of North Carolina
4 Blount Street
Raleigh, NC 27611

Dear Adjutant Stancil:

It is my pleasure to be able to tell you about The Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) and about our relationship with The American Legion Family. I am indebted to Jason Kees for introducing us and to you for accepting an invitation to spend some time together.

COTA is a national 501(c)3 charity whose mission it is to ensure that no child or young adult is denied, for financial reasons, the life-saving organ, bone marrow or stem cell transplant he or she needs. Our relationship with The American Legion dates to our founding in 1986 and COTA has received a commendation from the National Executive Committee of The American Legion. (A copy of that commendation is attached).

COTA is unique in that 100% of all funds donated for transplant-related expenses are used exclusively for that purpose. All COTA services are free and we take no percentage of the funds raised for patient campaigns.

Currently, we have 84 COTA families in North Carolina either awaiting transplant or post-transplant and still incurring significant expense. Many people don't realize that when a patient receives his or her life-saving transplant it marks the end of one journey and the beginning of another, with significant life-style change and continuing lifetime expense.

COTA is a recipient of American Legion Child Welfare grants and routinely attend a number of department meetings throughout the country. Our participation in those meetings is driven by desires of the department, the auxiliary and the SAL detachment for our presence. For example, at some meetings we bring a local family in and address the three assemblies from the dais. However, this usually happens after we have established credibility by previously interacting with membership and attending a meeting, or two, to introduce COTA.

May I suggest that it may be appropriate to have COTA at your 2015 summer meeting and, at your invitation, have a table on Friday and Saturday at which members can pick up information on COTA? If so, this may be a great way to introduce North Carolinians to COTA, to our work in your state and how a local post, squadron or unit can help a COTA family near them.

Mr. Frank Stancil

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5 May 2015

This is my commitment to you, personally, and to your members, Frank:

- Any funds raised by any American Legion Family unit within your state will remain within your state, for use by a COTA family from North Carolina
- 100% of all funds will be used for transplant-related expenses
- COTA will take no fee for any funds that are collected
- I will personally provide a Miracle Maker Certificate to each squadron, unit, post or Legion Rider group who makes a contribution
- That if matching funds are still available and prior to October 1, 2015, COTA will provide a \$1000 matching grant for the first \$1000 raised by the American Legion Family within North Carolina, under the American Legion Hometown Heroes for COTA fund established by the CWF grant
- That COTA will provide marketing materials and support for your posts, (and for squadrons and units) to help them successfully raise funds to help a COTA family near them

It's my sincere hope that I will be able to, at your invitation, attend your convention and personally thank anyone who has helped COTA in the past and encourage them to consider lending a hand in the future to a COTA family who lives near them.

Thank you, Frank, for your service to The American Legion and for considering my request.

With deepest gratitude,



Doug Lippert

Member, SAL Squadron 155; Carmel, Indiana

Director of Development

317.519.9836 (cell); doug@cota.org



cc: Attachment

COTA is a 501(c)3 organization and 100% of funds donated to COTA for transplant-related expenses are used exclusively for that purpose. COTA charges no fee for its assistance, nor do we take any percentage of funds raised.

**THE AMERICAN LEGION
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46206
MAY 7-8, 2014**

RESOLUTION NO: 23

Commending Children's Organ Transplant Association

COMMISSION: Americanism

ORIGIN: Committee on Children & Youth

WHEREAS, It is the position of The American Legion that all children should have access to quality medical services to assure their physical, mental and emotional well being; and

WHEREAS, Children's Organ Transplant Association exists to assist patients who require life-saving organ, bone marrow, cord blood or stem cell transplants; and

WHEREAS, Children's Organ Transplant Association seeks to assist all patients 21 years of age and younger in need of medical transplants; and

WHEREAS, Each day 15,000 children are waiting for an organ transplant and another 5,000 are in need of a bone marrow transplant; and

WHEREAS, Children's Organ Transplant Association assists families from across the nation with local fundraising efforts and a matching grant to meet transplant-related expenses that are not typically covered by health insurance; and

WHEREAS, Children's Organ Transplant Association improves the lives of children and families in need of organ transplants and increases public awareness of their plight; and

WHEREAS, The Committee on Children & Youth has reviewed this resolution and recommends its approval; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 7-8, 2014, That The American Legion commends Children's Organ Transplant Association for its humanitarian efforts on behalf of children in need of organ and bone marrow transplants; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That the Americanism Commission's Committee on Children & Youth send a copy of this resolution to Children's Organ Transplant Association as an expression of The American Legion's congratulations and continuing admiration.