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August 6, 2020

- I. COVID Research Volunteers Needed
- II. Nominations Sought For Mayors' Hall of Fame
- III. Let Your Vendors Know About NJ Municipalities Magazine!

Municipal Clerks: Please forward to your Mayor, Governing Body and Department Heads.

To assist in providing guidance and information we have created a [COVID-19 resource page](#). We will continue to update the page as we get pertinent information and include announcements in our Daily Updates.

I. COVID Research Volunteers Needed

Please let your citizens know about these heroic service opportunities.

First, anyone who has recovered from the virus, who has been symptom free for at least 14 days, and who is otherwise able to donate blood, could be eligible to save lives by donating their convalescent plasma.

Convalescent plasma is the liquid part of blood that is collected from patients who have recovered from the novel coronavirus disease, COVID-19, caused by the virus SARS-CoV-2. COVID-19 patients develop antibodies in the blood against the virus. Antibodies are proteins that might help fight the infection. Convalescent plasma is being investigated for the treatment of COVID-19. There is no approved treatment for this disease, but there are promising indications that COVID-19 convalescent plasma might help some patients recover.

Demand continues to exceed supply. To learn more about the process or find the nearest site, interested parties can visit:

- [AABB](#)
- [America's Blood Centers](#)
- [American Red Cross](#)
- [Blood Centers of America](#)
- [CoVlg-19 Plasma Alliance](#)
- [National COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma Project](#)
- [Plasma Protein Therapeutics Association](#)
- [The Fight Is In Us](#)

Second, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health, has established a new clinical trials network that aims to enroll thousands of volunteers in large-scale clinical trials testing a variety of investigational vaccines and monoclonal antibodies intended to protect people from COVID-19.

Anyone interested can learn more, and, should they decide to go forward, [see if they qualify to volunteer](#).

The COVID-19 Prevention Trials Network (COVPN) was established by merging four existing NIAID-funded clinical trials networks: the HIV Vaccine Trials Network (HVTN), based in Seattle; the HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN), based in Durham, N.C.; the Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Consortium (IDCRC), based in Atlanta; and the AIDS Clinical Trials Group, based in Los Angeles. Those individual networks will continue to perform clinical trials for HIV vaccine and prevention and other infectious diseases in addition to their new COVID roles.

II. Nominations Sought for Mayors' Hall of Fame

The League is accepting nominations for the 2020 Mayors' Hall of Fame. To qualify, a mayor must be serving in at least their 10th cumulative year for the silver level, 20th year for the gold level, or 30th year for the platinum level. Mayors who rotate into office can qualify after holding the office of mayor for 10 years.

Qualifying mayors will be inducted into the New Jersey State League of Municipalities Mayors' Hall of Fame during the Mayors' Luncheon at the Annual Conference Wednesday, November 18, in Atlantic City. For nomination forms and more information about the Mayors' Hall of Fame, visit the [Hall of Fame page](#) on the website.

Contact: Michael F. Cerra, Executive Director, mcerra@njlm.org, 609-695-3481 x120.

III. Let Your Vendors Know About NJ Municipalities Magazine!

Do you work with vendors that you would recommend to other municipalities? Let these vendors know about the League's magazine, *NJ Municipalities*. Placing advertisements in the magazine helps to increase the reach of their marketing messages and supports the League as an organization in the process.

Contact Taran Samhammer at tsamhammer@njlm.org with your vendor's mailing address and we will send them a sample issue!



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