

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Link to San Diego Blood Bank b-roll can be found here

SAN DIEGO BLOOD BANK ISSUES URGENT CALL FOR BLOOD DONATIONS

Supply Chain Issues and Holidays Affecting Blood Supply

SAN DIEGO (**December 19, 2022**) San Diego Blood Bank (SDBB) is issuing an urgent call for blood donations as the local supply nears dangerously low levels. This week SDBB will run out of special kits to specifically collect blood from those who donate "double reds" (essentially 2 units of donated blood in one appointment) due to supply chain issues. Additional donors are needed to fill the gap.

Additionally, the holiday season is a tough time to collect blood as high schools and colleges are out for winter break and not hosting their regular blood drives, people are traveling and busy with holiday plans, and blood donation is not top of mind for most people.

"We need healthy people to come in for a whole blood or platelet donation immediately in order to keep enough supply on hand for patients in our local hospitals" said San Diego Blood Bank CEO Doug Morton. "It's easy and convenient – wherever you live or work, you're most likely within 10 minutes of one of our donor centers or mobile blood drives."

To be eligible to donate blood you must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 114 pounds, and be in general good health. Eligible blood donors are encouraged to schedule an appointment at SanDiegoBloodBank.org or calling 619-400-8251.

About the San Diego Blood Bank

San Diego Blood Bank (SDBB) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization also operating as Southern California Blood Bank. The Blood Bank serves hospitals throughout Southern California with more than 150,000 units of blood each year. San Diego Blood Bank's mission is to connect diverse communities to save and improve lives through blood and biotherapies. Dedicated to advancing health and wellness through medical innovation, SDBB has provided an essential service since 1950. San Diego Blood Bank currently operates nine fixed-site donation locations and 10 bloodmobiles, with blood drives running daily. For more information about SDBB, visit www.SanDiegoBloodBank.org and follow on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Linkedin.