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LA MESA WOMAN CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY BY HOSTING BLOOD DRIVE TO HELP FAMILY FRIEND

SAN DIEGO (December 23, 2021) – Today La Mesa resident Thuy Nguyen celebrated her 31st birthday by hosting a blood drive to generate blood donations for her friend’s 6-year-old daughter Kamila Saradpon. Kamila has a rare form of anemia and needs blood every few weeks to survive. Thuy met Kamila’s mom at church, and when she heard about Kamila’s need for blood, she felt compelled to help.

The drive is running until 7 p.m. tonight at Grossmont Center near the Reading Cinemas movie theatre, however all appointment slots have been filled. Thuy is urging anyone who was not able to donate at the drive today to donate through her “virtual blood drive” by visiting any San Diego Blood Bank donation location and mentioning the donation code “TWEE” when registering.

All blood types are needed. Kamila’s blood type is AB positive, making her a “universal recipient” which means she can receive blood from any other blood type. Less than 4% of the U.S. population has AB positive blood.

San Diego Blood Bank is currently antibody testing each blood donation as part of their regular testing panel to qualify donations for COVID-19 convalescent plasma. Visit sandiegobloodbank.org/COVID19 for more information. Please note: As this is NOT a diagnostic test, it will not detect active COVID-19 infections or recent exposure.

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. **Appointments are required** and available by visiting sandiegobloodbank.org or by calling (619) 400-8251.

About San Diego Blood Bank

SDBB is dedicated to community health by providing a reliable supply of blood to patients in need. Our vision is to further ensure the health of our community by simultaneously delivering related health and wellness education and services and extending into research. SDBB is an independent, 501(c)(3) non-profit that serves hospitals in San Diego, Orange, Imperial and Los Angeles counties with blood transfusion products and reference laboratory services. SDBB currently operates six local donor centers and 10 bloodmobiles. SDBB’s Cell Therapy Program provides lifesaving stem cell transplants to patients worldwide. For more information about SDBB, visit www.SanDiegoBloodBank.org or connect with us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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