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**Sharp HealthCare Collects 1,665 Pints of Blood for
Local Hospital Patients During Blood Donation Challenge**

SAN DIEGO (December 19, 2019) – Sharp HealthCare has collected 1,665 pints of blood at its facilities across the county from employees, their families and friends, as a part of their Sharp Lends a Hand community volunteer program. As San Diego’s leading health care provider, Sharp hospitals use approximately 26,000 units of blood products each year to care for their patients. The San Diego Blood Bank is the primary provider of blood products to Sharp hospitals across San Diego.

Last January, Sharp HealthCare announced its goal to collect 1,500 pints of blood in 2019 – 500 more pints than they collected in 2018. Sharp employees, their families and friends were encouraged to donate blood at mobile drives at Sharp locations or at any San Diego Blood Bank donor center or mobile drive. In all, 63 blood drives were held at various Sharp Healthcare locations throughout San Diego, collecting 165 more pints than anticipated.

“Sharp HealthCare has once again gone over and above, helping to ensure an ample blood supply for our community’s needs,” said David Wellis, CEO, San Diego Blood Bank. “Sharp’s efforts are extraordinary and are a great example of what a true community partnership can achieve.”

Sharp HealthCare’s goal for 2020 will be 1,700 units of blood.

To be eligible to donate blood you must be at least 17 years old (16-year-olds may donate with parental consent), weigh at least 114 pounds and be in general good health. 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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