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**SAN DIEGO BLOOD BANK ASKING COMMUNITY TO DONATE
BEFORE ANTICIPATED SUMMER SHORTAGE**

SAN DIEGO (June 27, 2019) – As the Fourth of July holiday weekend nears, the San Diego Blood Bank (SDBB) is asking those who have never given blood and those who haven't given blood recently, to schedule an appointment to donate blood now in order to ensure supply is on hand for local patients.

Summer is always a challenging time for blood centers to ensure an adequate blood supply due to donors taking vacations and schools being out of session. Despite the season, the need for blood remains constant and patients continue to depend on the generosity of blood donors to meet that need. This Fourth of July, SDBB's Gateway Center (near downtown) and North County Donor Center (Escondido) will be open from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Donors can also donate at any SDBB mobile drive.

"We're asking our community to keep our blood supply at a safe level by donating before the holiday weekend, which is especially challenging" said San Diego Blood Bank CEO, David Wellis. "There is no substitute for blood – donations are needed now."

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 to give by visiting www.SanDiegoBloodBank.org/Donate or calling 1-800-4-MY-SDBB (1-800-469-7322).

About the 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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