



July 4th Blood Drives a Surprise Success Residents Rise to Meet the Holiday Request for Blood Donations



Left: A July 4 donor at a Douglas, GA blood drive is happy to give; **Below:** An SCBC Bloodmobile is ready for donors



This year, for the first time in the history of the organization, Southeastern Community Blood Center remained open on the July 4th holiday. In order to keep up with the increase in demand typically surrounding the occasion, SCBC scheduled multiple blood drives and encouraged area residents to start a new holiday tradition: donate blood.

The combined efforts of the blood center and its surrounding communities were phenomenal: the 6 bloodmobiles and 2 donor centers in operation on July 4th collected nearly 300 units of blood - twice as much as the center's goal for the day! As a result of these donors' lifesaving contributions, the blood supply remained strong for the unexpected emergencies that occurred on, and around, the holiday.

The July 4th event was a true community collaboration, and a memorable time for everyone involved. Without the help of donors, SCBC would not have been able to secure a steady blood supply for the local hospitals and medical facilities it partners with.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the July 4th blood drive events! We hope you will continue to recognize the importance of donating, not just at holidays, but in routine times as well.

Blood Center Partner Provides Support for Summer

At SCBC, we rely on donors of all types to help us meet the needs of the community. Thankfully, we often get a hand from the hospitals and medical facilities we serve, whose employees understand how critically important blood donors are. Recently, we held a blood drive with Tallahassee Memorial Hospital (TMH), a partner organization, in an effort to increase the blood supply following the 4th of July holiday.

The TMH blood drive, which took place on Monday, July 6, was a win-win situation for both organizations involved; SCBC was able to collect an astonishing 63 units, which enabled team members at TMH to take a sigh of relief, knowing their patients would have access to the blood and blood products necessary for healing and recovery.

Over the holiday weekend before the drive occurred, TMH staff was struggling to meet the needs of an O Positive trauma patient, an incident which likely reinforced the significance of blood donation to its team members. The effort of donors at the drive was key in boosting the blood supply following the holiday weekend and in reminding individuals of the inability to predict who will need blood and when they will need it.

Did you KNOW...?

Sickle Cell disease affects more than 80,000 people in the United States. Sickle Cell patients often depend on blood transfusions to maintain a normal lifestyle.

We're looking for blood recipient stories from people willing to share their experience with other individuals. If you have a story to tell, or know of someone else who does, please email Brittani Emmorey at bemmorey@fbsblood.org. We'd love to hear from you!

July Promotions & Events

- Donate blood through the end of July and receive a beach towel as a thank you gift!



- Give blood July 20-31, and you'll be entered to win an Emerald Coast beach trip to Destin, FL or a month's supply of vitaminwater. See website for details.