## COMMUNITY CONNECTION DECOMPOSITION A MILLER-KEYSTONE BLOOD CENTER PUBLICATION PLEASE ADD TO SAFE SENDERS/WHITELIST FOR FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS

Schedule A Lifesaving Blood Do

Blood Donation

Blood Donation Eligibility Guidelines Make a Financial Contribution

#### A Message from Miller-Keystone Blood Center (MKBC)

Not just in November, but every day MKBC is grateful for:

- **OUR BLOOD DONORS** -- for selflessly sharing your good health with others through the lifesaving act of blood donation.

- **OUR STAFF** -- for your tireless dedication and commitment to saving lives by ensuring that a safe and continuous supply of blood products is available for cancer patients, premature infants, accident victims, surgical patients, individuals with autoimmune diseases such as TTP or Sickle Cell, and others in need of lifesaving transfusions.

- **OUR BLOOD DRIVE SPONSORS** -- for recognizing the importance of our lifesaving mission; encouraging your staff, students and/or other constituents to donate blood; and providing them with convenience opportunities to give the gift of life.

- **OUR PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORTERS** -- for your generosity, which makes our lifesaving mission possible. No gift is too small, and every gift counts!

- **OUR VOLUNTEERS** -- including canteen attendants, office support, committee members and representatives on our Board of Directors -- for sharing your time, talent and experience to help ensure a productive blood center.

- **OUR HOSPITAL CUSTOMERS AND SUPPLIERS** -- for placing your trust in us as a partner in the rewarding and challenging industry of transfusion medicine.

- **OUR LEGISLATIVE OFFICIALS** -- for recognizing the importance of a safe and strong community blood supply, and using your influence to encourage blood donation at the local, state and national level.

- OUR MEDIA PARTNERS AND REGIONAL SPORTS TEAMS -- for your energy, enthusiasm and creativity in helping us educate our community on the critical importance of donating blood.

From our family to yours, have a happy, healthy and safe Thanksgiving!

### Miller-Keystone Blood Center

#### Honoring our Veterans Every Day



Miller-Keystone Blood Center proudly supports our military servicemen and servicewomen. Through our <u>Veterans Still Serving</u> <u>program</u>, we want to offer you a token of our appreciation – all year long. Please contact us to learn more about the **complimentary MKBC** 

Challenge Coin which we would like to present to you when you visit us for your next

#### blood donation!

On behalf of everyone at MKBC, thank you to those who previously served, are serving, or will serve in the future to protect our freedoms. You are heroes!



#### Celebrate Hope: Megan's Story

Our Celebrate Hope program is designed to unite transfusion recipients from our community hospitals with with the actual individuals whose selfless donation(s) helped to save their lives!



As a young wife and mother in 2003, Megan was diagnosed with a rare and often fatal blood disorder. During the course of her care, Megan received more than 600 blood transfusions, and she has been in remission for 20 years. Click to watch the emotional moment when Megan is able to meet and thank some of her lifesaving heroes!

#### How will you recognize GivingTuesday?

Every act of generosity or kindness matters. Join individuals throughout our community and throughout the world on Tuesday, November 28, to recognize **GivingTuesday**! GivingTuesday reimagines a world built upon shared humanity and generosity, with a mission to build a world where generosity is part of everyday life.



There are dozens of ways to recognize GivingTuesday... here at the Blood Center, you actually have three opportunities to give:

- <u>Give Blood</u>
  - Give a Financial Donation
- Give Time (Volunteer)

As Giving Tuesday approaches, we hope you will keep the Blood Center in mind. While you may never know the recipient of your lifesaving generosity, you can rest assured that they and their family are very grateful for your gift.

"Everyone you meet is fighting a battle you know nothing about. Be Kind. Always." -- Brad Meltzer, Novelist and Screenwriter

#### **MKBC Annual Report of Gifts**

Financial contributions are a vital part of MKBC's operations, as they underwrite the purchase of blood collections equipment, laboratory technology, and other necessary supplies that ensure the availability and safety of the region's blood supply. We are proud to provide our <u>2022-23 Annual Report of Financial Gifts</u>, and we gratefully say "thank you."

#### **MKBC Honor Roll of Blood Donors**

MKBC collects, tests and distributes more than 100,000 transfusable blood products annually. These blood products are used in the treatment of accident and burn victims, cancer patients, premature babies, surgery and transplant patients, individuals with inherited blood disorders, and others in need of lifesaving transfusions at our <u>regional hospitals</u>. On behalf of everyone whose life has been impacted by your generosity, we humbly say "thank you" as we present our <u>2022-23</u> <u>Honor Roll of Blood Donors</u>.

#### Donate Blood in November to Support Prematurity Awareness Month!



NOVEMBER IS PREMATURITY AWARENESS MONTH

Did you know that approximately 500,000 premature infants are born annually in the US? Premature infants may face a number of challenges, including low birth weight, breathing problems, underdeveloped organs/organ systems, or serious infections. They are also at greater risk for cerebral palsy and for developmental disabilities.

Premature babies often require blood transfusions in the first few days of their life. Red blood cells levels may decline in premature babies due to blood loss during birth, during surgery, or from blood tests that may be required to treat the infant. They may also require a transfusion if the baby is very anemic or has severe jaundice. A blood transfusion may also be necessary to treat symptoms caused by anemia, such as apnea. Additionally, the expecting mother may require transfusions if diagnosed with anemia, preeclampsia, RH disease, thallesemia, or TTP, or if she experiences placental abruption or hemorrhaging.

> Visit MKBC in November, and donate in honor of Prematurity Awareness Month!

#### What is MKBC Tech Heroes Society?

Philanthropy plays an important role at MKBC.

Blood donors and financial supporters are integral in the work that we do. Technology and equipment are the two most expensive purchasing areas for MKBC and are critically important. In fact, in order to maintain a ready and safe blood supply, there are dozens of technology and equipment purchases that are made each year, many of which are necessary updates required by the FDA.

# POSSIBLE YEARLY FUNDING NEEDS Phlebotomy Training Aides - \$1,200 Blood Refrigerator - \$2,000 Vitals Monitor - \$2,000 Donor Chairs - \$3,000 Platelet Counter, Incubator/Agitator - \$7,000+ Fleet Vehicles: Courier Vehicle - \$28,000 Cargo Van - \$60,000 Annual Fleet Maintenance - \$100,000

Blood Mobile - \$300,000

You can have a direct impact on the purchase of modern and high-tech equipment and technology for our collections, laboratory and distribution processes. By becoming a member of the MKBC Tech Heroes leadership giving society, you will play a vital role in the purchase of new equipment and technology needs. <u>Click here</u> to learn more!

#### Learn About Our "Drops" Recruitment Campaign!

As a way to increase an organization's commitment to the Blood Center and our community, MKBC recently launched our "Drops" recruitment campaign. Companies signing up to participate receive monthly emails containing content to share with your employees. This content may be shared through a newsletter, email distribution, social media, or digital display - however your company communicates with your staff.

Each month, new and unique content is distributed - such as general information on the community blood supply, our locations, donor eligibility guidelines, community engagement programs, upcoming events, and more. These "Drops" are designed to educate and engage your employees, inspiring them to give the gift of life. We track these donations and report your company's performance back to you on a quarterly basis. For more details, or to join the growing list of companies participating in our "Drops" program, <u>click here</u>!

Thank you to organizations already participating in the "Drops" program, including Astound Broadband, Hovertech, Liquid, Lehigh Valley Health Network, Pencor Services and more!



MKBC is grateful for the schools, churches, businesses and other organizations that sponsor on-site bloodmobile drives. Our "Coordinator Corner" segment offers blood drive coordinators tips on ways to attract additional donors and <u>make your blood drive events even more successful!</u>

Don't just put flyers up and assume people will sign up! Posting the flyer in a window and on social media is important – especially if you can include a QR Code, but when it comes down to it, you have to ASK people to donate! We can



provide you with a list of your past donors so you can give them a call and offer to

sign them up. Do you have help? If someone volunteers to help you with the blood drive, give them a list of donors to call. You can also do this by using our online Blood Drive Coordinator Portal! If you are not familiar with using this tool, contact your MKBC Account Manager for more information and assistance.

# Thank the Donor® Anonymously Connects Recipients With Their Lifesavers!

Thank the Donor<sup>®</sup> (TtD) is a program which allows blood donors and transfusion recipients to anonymously connect, enabling the recipient to thank the donor for their lifesaving generosity via email. To date, more than 400 of our blood donors have received heartfelt messages from grateful transfusion recipients!



## Imagine donating blood, and a few weeks later receiving an email like this!



"I never actually reflected on donors until recently. I was diagnosed with cancer and my hemoglobin levels plummeted, so I need transfusions almost weekly. Without people like you, I'd have very little capacity to carry oxygen to my cells/tissue, which could end in death. You truly are a life saver! Thank you for your willingness to help me."

#### Search for a Community Blood Drive Near You!

Hospitals Served By MKBC MKBC Board of Directors

<u>MKBC Tech Heroes</u> <u>Campaign</u> <u>Veterans Still</u> <u>Serving Initiative</u> <u>Thank the Donor</u> <u>Program</u>

Join the MKBC Biolinked Network!

#### PLEASE ADD TO SAFE SENDER/WHITELIST FOR FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS



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Miss a previous edition of our e-newsletter? <u>Click here to view past issues!</u>

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