

Your Blood. Their Hope.®



## **MILLER-KEYSTONE** BLOOD CENTER

1465 Valley Center Parkway, Bethlehem, PA 18017

Administrative Fax 610-691-5423

Medical Fax 610-691-5748

1-800-B-A-DONOR

GIVEaPINT.org

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date: September 17, 2024**

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## **MILLER-KEYSTONE BLOOD CENTER'S FALL APPRECIATION SERIES TAKING PLACE ON THURSDAY, SEPT. 24**

### ***Blood Center To Honor Blood Donors, Volunteers And Financial Supporters At DeSales University***

LEHIGH VALLEY, PA – On Tuesday, September 24, 4:00 pm, at DeSales University, Miller-Keystone Blood Center (MKBC) will be hosting the second half of a very special series of events to honor individuals and organizations in our community that support the Blood Center's lifesaving mission.

"The Blood Center is excited to be hosting our fall Appreciation Series on September 24," said Rami Nemeh, Chief Operating Officer, MKBC. "That afternoon, we will be honoring the blood donors, individual financial supporters, and service volunteers who play a vital role in the work that we do."

MKBC's Appreciation Series launched in May 2024, when the Blood Center acknowledged its regional high school/college blood drive sponsors and recognized corporate and foundation support. Also announced and honored that day were MKBC's 2023 Local Leader Award recipients – those organizations which sponsored blood drives and collected a minimum of 200 lifesaving blood donations in 2023. Included among the 2023 MKBC Local Leader Award recipients are Air Products, Allison Perno Memorial Blood Drives, Lehigh Valley Health Network-Cedar Crest, Lehigh University, Pediatric Cancer Foundation of the Lehigh Valley, St. Luke's Hospital (Bethlehem), and St. Joseph the Worker Parish.

"Miller-Keystone Blood Center is extremely grateful for our blood donors, blood drive sponsors, and financial contributors," said Lina Barbieri, Chief Philanthropy Officer, MKBC.

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“Every single one of them, along with volunteers and our staff, are critically important to the operations of our organization. The support of these individuals and organizations ensures we are able to provide the lifesaving blood products and transfusion services that our community depends on.”

MKBC supplies blood to all the major hospital networks in the area including St. Lukes, Geisinger, Grand View Health, Tower Health and LVHN, and also serves as a vital resource to other regional healthcare facilities during emergencies.

“For more than 50 years, MKBC has had the privilege of serving more than three million residents across an eighteen-county radius, including the Lehigh Valley and neighboring communities,” Mr. Nemeh added.

Sponsors of the Blood Center’s 2024 Appreciation Series include East Penn Manufacturing, Highmark, and the St. Luke’s University Health Network. A full list of event sponsors, as well as additional event details, can be found on MKBC’s website at [GIVEaPINT.org/programs/mkbc-appreciation-series](https://GIVEaPINT.org/programs/mkbc-appreciation-series).

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