

COMMUNITY CONNECTION Drops

A MILLER-KEYSTONE BLOOD CENTER PUBLICATION



MARCH 2025

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#BloodDonorDate Turns into Lifelong Commitment - on Two Fronts

Where did you go on your first date with your significant other? Perhaps to a movie or out to dinner? It's not often that a first date involves donating blood, yet #BloodDonorDates are not a new concept. In fact, Christopher and Jamie Englebert spent their very first date donating blood more than 20 years ago.



There might have been a bit of magic that day - not only did Jamie learn that she has the much coveted O-negative universal blood type, but she and Christopher also found a lasting connection. Today, they are married and operate Englebert Financial Advisers, a thriving wealth management firm in Allentown.

And it's this commitment to giving—whether through blood donation or financial planning guidance—that led Christopher and Jamie to also become dedicated financial supporters of Miller-Keystone Blood Center. They recognize that while blood donation is at the heart of MKBC's mission, financial contributions help keep the organization running and saving lives. We are deeply grateful for the Engleberts and all that they do. Thank you!

MKBC Welcomes Brian Fanning as New Vice President of Operations

Brian Fanning, MBA, recently joined the Blood Center as Vice President of Operations. In this role, Brian will oversee the operations of our Donor Relations, Marketing, Donor Collections, Laboratory and Hospital Services departments. He will also work closely with the Quality Assurance, Medical and Finance teams to support the Blood Center's mission and growth.



"I'm excited to join Miller-Keystone Blood Center and be part of its important work in our community," he said. "I look forward to working alongside our local hospitals,

blood drive sponsors, our dedicated staff, and, most importantly, our incredible blood donors to help ensure patients get the lifesaving transfusions they need."

Brian has more than 20 years of experience in the healthcare sector, with expertise in finance, marketing and operations. He most recently served as Vice President of Patient Experience at HNL Lab Medicine. A graduate of Muhlenberg College (Allentown, PA) with a Bachelors Degree in Accounting and Economics, he also holds an MBA in Marketing from Lehigh University (Bethlehem, PA).

A dedicated blood donor himself, Brian resides in Bethlehem Township with his wife and two sons.

FINAL WEEKS of Blood Donor Madness Competition



MKBC's Blood Donor Madness has united Lehigh Valley colleges in a battle to save lives. The inaugural competition launched on Monday, January 13, and runs through Friday, April 4.

During this time, colleges and universities in the Lehigh Valley are competing with each other to see who can collect the most blood donations. These donations can be made at college-sponsored MKBC blood drives, as well as at MKBC donor center locations (including

Allentown, Bethlehem and Easton).

Participating schools have a goal of 4% of their student population. If the goal is attained, the school will receive a \$1,000 award for its college scholarship fund, with the winning college or university being awarded a \$10,000 award for its scholarship fund. In addition, student and school faculty donors will have the opportunity to win randomly selected prizes, such as gift cards, air pods or sneakers.

Lehigh University currently leads this year's competition, with Penn State Lehigh Valley and Moravian University looking to take over the lead!

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Philadelphia Phillies vs. San Francisco Giants |
March 1 - March 31

**Cosmic Baseball is Coming... and You Can Be
There** | March 1 - April 30

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GIVEAWAYS!**

Top 10 Excuses For Not **DONATING BLOOD**



#10: "I'm Too Busy."

If you or a loved one needed blood, can you imagine hearing this excuse?

Donating blood is safe and easy, and takes less than one hour from start to finish.

That's right - in the same amount of time that you might watch one of your favorite TV shows, you can save a life.

Schedule your lifesaving blood donation today at [GIVEaPINT.org](https://giveapint.org)!

We Want To Hear From You!

At MKBC, we believe in the power of stories and connecting with others! From donors to recipients, employees, supporters, community partners and more, every story matters and helps inspire others to save lives.

That's why we want to hear from YOU! It's time to share your story about how receiving blood or giving blood has impacted your life. Email your story to marketing@giveapint.org, or click on button below.



**CLICK HERE TO TELL US YOUR
STORY!**



I just wanted to thank you so much for taking the time to donate blood. I received 2 liters today. I have stage 4 ovarian cancer and chemo makes my platelets decrease....so your kindness allows me to continue to receive chemo. Thank you again from the bottom of my heart!



**SEARCH FOR A COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE NEAR
YOU!**



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