COMMUNITY CONNECTION Drops



OCTOBER 2026 A MILLER-KEYSTONE BLOOD CENTER PUBLICATION

PLEASE ADD TO SAFE SENDERS/WHITE LIST FOR FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS

[Schedule A Lifesaving Blood Donation] [Blood Donation Eligibility Guidelines] [Make a Financial Contribution]

A LIFESAVING LEGACY

Fifty-plus years of donating blood. More than **150 gallons donated**. Thousands of lives impacted.

Accident victims. Cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy. Surgery and transplant patients. Premature infants. Individuals living with inherited blood disorders. They are among the countless individuals who have benefited from blood donors like Mark Reimert of Bernville, who recently reached an extraordinary milestone: 150 gallons donated.



READ MARK'S STORY HERE

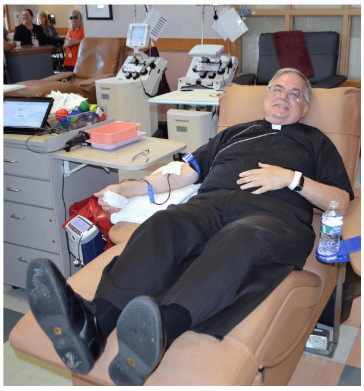
DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN ANNOUNCES THIRD ANNUAL DIOCESE-WIDE BLOOD DRIVE

The Diocese of Allentown and MKBC recently launched the **third annual Diocese-wide blood drive campaign,** which runs from September 19 through December 16.

The campaign's launch date coincides with the September 19 Feast Day of Saint Januarius, Patron Saint of Blood Banks, and offers parishioners throughout the Diocese a meaningful opportunity to put their faith into action through the lifesaving gift of blood donation.

Over the past two years, parishioners across the Diocese of Allentown have generously responded. In 2025, the campaign collected 821 units of blood, a 40% increase over 2024, with 63 parishes and schools throughout the Diocese participating. The goal of the 2026 campaign is 1,000 lifesaving blood donations.





Blood donors who provide their parish's Blood Drive Sponsor Code at the time of their appointment will receive a Saint Januarius medallion blessed by The Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert, Bishop of the Diocese of Allentown. Prayer cards or magnets are also available for donors who previously received a medallion or who would prefer a prayer card or magnet instead.

CLICK HERE FOR MORE DETAILS

Lehighton Ambulance Launches Pre-Hospital Blood Program in Partnership with MKBC



Effective October 1, 2026, Lehighton Ambulance Association has become the first EMS agency based in Carbon County to implement **a pre-hospital blood program, bringing lifesaving blood products directly to patients before they reach the hospital.** Lehighton Ambulance will provide the service throughout Carbon County and the surrounding region in partnership with Miller-Keystone Blood Center (MKBC), which also supports pre-hospital blood programs operated by the City of Allentown and City of Bethlehem EMS services.

READ NEWS RELEASE HERE

OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



MKBC stands with everyone whose life has been impacted by breast cancer. For patients undergoing chemotherapy as part of their care, blood and platelet transfusions provide vital support, and every single one of our blood donors contribute to making that support possible.

In recognition of **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**, we celebrate survivors, remember those we've lost, and stand beside those still bravely facing breast cancer. When our community gives, we give more than blood - we give hope.

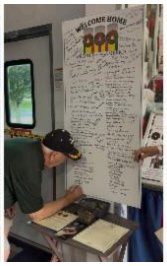
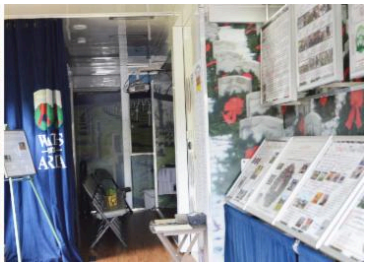
SCHEDULE YOUR DONATION TODAY!

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA VISITS MKBC'S BETHLEHEM HEADQUARTERS

In September, MKBC was privileged to welcome **Wreaths Across America** to our Bethlehem headquarters for an inspiring day dedicated to honoring our nation's veterans and advancing its mission to **Remember, Honor and Teach**.

The day was filled with gratitude, fellowship and a strong sense of community as we came together to recognize the service and sacrifice of the brave men and women who have given so much for our country. We are grateful to Wreaths Across America for bringing its mission to our community and to everyone who joined us for this meaningful day of remembrance and recognition.



MKBC: PROUDLY FEATURED IN FIG MAGAZINE



We were thrilled to be featured in the **Fall Issue of Fig Lehigh Valley**, which shines a spotlight on Miller-Keystone Blood Center and the dedicated people behind our lifesaving mission.

Features like this help raise awareness of the constant need for blood while recognizing the extraordinary team working to ensure lifesaving blood products are available for patients throughout our region.

VIEW FIG'S FALL ISSUE HERE

CELEBRATING OUR LIFESAVING BLOOD COLLECTIONS TEAM



Each September, we celebrate **Blood Collectors Week,** recognizing the dedicated healthcare professionals who collect, process and help manage our community's blood supply.

The hard work, expertise and dedication of our Collections Team are appreciated every day. By providing a safe, comfortable and welcoming experience for our donors, they represent the very best of Miller-Keystone Blood Center. We are proud to celebrate our Collections Team and grateful for all they do!

VIEW TEAM VIDEO HERE

UPCOMING MKBC PROMOTIONS & GIVEAWAYS



PENN STATE VS. RUTGERS: Donate now through November 8 and you can enter to win 4 tickets and a parking pass to the **Penn State/Rutgers game** on Saturday, November 21, 2026 at Beaver Stadium. Details here.

SHOCKTOBERFEST: Donate blood now through October 31 and you will receive **one (1) $10 off any All Access Pass or RIP All Access Pass** to Shocktoberfest *(while supplies last)*. Details here.

ABBOTT BIG10 - WE GIVE BLOOD: Penn State is competing in **Abbott's We Give Blood Drive**, a Big Ten-wide blood donation competition – and we need your help! Students, alumni, and fans can donate blood at any blood center nationwide and log their donation for Penn State. Every donation counts as one point, and the Big Ten school with the most donations by December 4 will **win $1 million to advance student or community health.** Plus, when you log your donation, you'll get a FREE t-shirt! Details here.

CLICK HERE FOR MORE PROMOS & EVENTS

SCHEDULE YOUR LIFESAVING BLOOD DONATION HERE

BLOOD CENTER HOSTS "FIND YOUR TYPE" SINGLES EVENT



MKBC recently celebrated the return of one of its most popular events - its **"Find Your Type" Singles Event**, which is designed to bring local singles together for a unique mix of social connections and lifesaving generosity. Approximately 50 individuals, ranging in age from 23 to 84 joined us, highlighting the broad appeal of this unique community event. In addition to music, food and mocktails, we had some low-key activities and conversation starters to help break the ice, as well as photo opportunities and raffle prizes courtesy of area merchants, along with the opportunity for those interested to roll up their sleeves and donate blood.





Myth: "I can't donate because I have had cancer."



FACT: anyone with the following types of cancer **may donate:** Squamous or Basal Cell Carcinoma of the skin, and those with Melanoma **may be eligible** after evaluation by our Medical Director.

Persons with other forms of cancer **may donate** one (1) year after recovery.

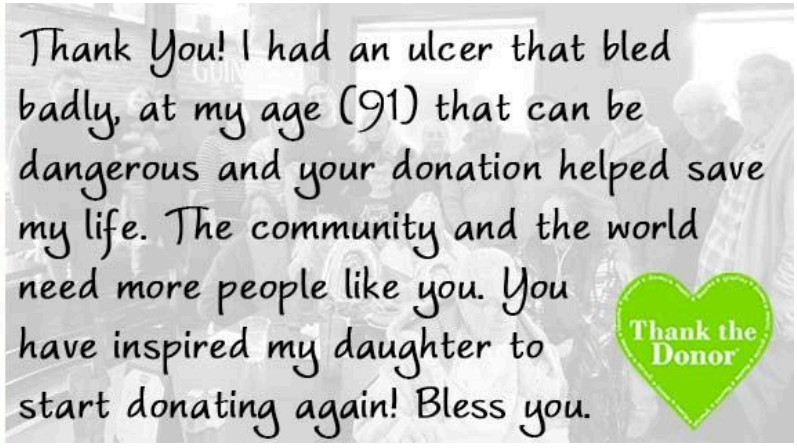
Individuals with Blood Cancer (leukemia or lymphoma) **are not eligible** to donate.

A complete list of **donor eligibility requirements** is available HERE.

To schedule an appointment, click below or visit GiveAPint.org, download the MKBC App (available for Apple and Android devices), or call 800-B-A-DONOR (223-6667), ext. 2.

SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT





What is MKBC's "Thank the Donor" program? Click here for details.

SEARCH FOR A COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE NEAR YOU!

HOSPITALS SERVED BY MKBC | MKBC EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES | VETERANS STILL SERVING INITIATIVE | MKBC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FREQUENT LIFESAVER (REWARDS) CLUB | MKBC UNIVERSAL HERO CLUB | MKBC PLATELET WARRIOR CLUB | THANK THE DONOR PROGRAM

MKBC LEGACY SOCIETY | MKBC TECH HEROES PROGRAM | MKBC MEDIA CENTER | JOIN THE MKBC BIOLINKED NETWORK

Miss a previous edition of our e-newsletter? Click here for past issues!

PLEASE ADD TO SAFE SENDER/WHITELIST FOR FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS

DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP TODAY!

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Download on the App Store

Your Blood. Their Hope.®
MILLER-KEYSTONE BLOOD CENTER

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SCAN HERE TO REVIEW US!

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