COMMUNITY CONNECTION Drops

SEPTEMBER 2026 A MILLER-KEYSTONE BLOOD CENTER PUBLICATION

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

SHOWING UP REGULARLY FOR OTHERS



While still at Nazareth High School, Jeremy O. discovered he shared the same blood type as his grandfather, who was preparing for surgery. While his donation would support the broader blood supply, that shared connection gave this new act of giving blood deep meaning. **Blood donation suddenly felt personal.** It wasn't abstract or theoretical it was something real, something he could do for his family and for others who might need blood just as urgently. That first decision to roll up his sleeve set a course Jeremy has followed ever since.

READ JEREMY'S STORY HERE



9 BLOOD DONORS. MORE THAN 12,000 LIVES IMPACTED.

Congratulations to some of our amazing blood donors for reaching his/her latest **milestone donations:** Greg C (50-gallons), Maureen C (50-gallons), Maryellen D (50-gallons), Robert J (100-gallons), Tim & Karen K (50-gallons), Thomas N (50-gallons), Thomas P (50-gallons), David W (50-gallons).

MKBC READING HOSTS GRAND RE-OPENING AND RIBBON CUTTING CELEBRATION

MKBC recently held a **grand reopening and ribbon cutting** event at its Reading Donor Center. That morning, MKBC staff gathered with blood donors, community leaders, legislative officials, and other supporters to mark the completion of upgrades designed to enhance the blood donation experience and better serve the community. Offering comments at the event were MKBC's **Rami Nemeh**, President & CEO, and MKBC Board Member, **Dr. Thomas Geng, Jr, DO, MBA, CPE, FACS,** Chairman Department of Surgery & CMO, Reading Hospital/Tower Health.

The renovation project included reconfiguring the building's Donor Center and Administrative Offices, along with the installation of new donor chairs, energy-efficient LED lighting, and updated ADA-compliant restrooms.

A special note of thanks to the office of **Representative Dan Meuser (PA-09)** and his South Region Field Director, Madison Colaco, who presented the Blood Center with a flag that was flown over our nation's capitol and is now proudly raised at our Reading location.



Rami Nemeh, MKBC President & CEO, and Reading Hospital / Tower Health's Dr. Thomas Geng, Jr, DO, MBA, CPE, FACS, join with Blood Center staff to cut the ribbon.



Blood Center staff, family members, and colleagues of late Jeff Buck, Chief of the Walnuttown Fire Company and dedicated blood donor, surround the new donor chair dedicated in his memory.

Where is MKBC's Reading Donor Center located?

Our Reading fixed site is located at 2745A Leiscz's Bridge Road, Reading, PA 19605. However, those using GPS are encouraged to use address 1047 Old Bernville Road, Reading, PA 19605. Our Reading donor center is open Monday through Saturday, with morning, afternoon and evening appointments available for the convenience of blood donors in the region.

If you haven't already seen it, you can expect to receive information on Miller-Keystone Blood Center's 2026 Annual Appeal in your mailbox soon!

TOGETHER WE CAN ANSWER THE CALL

Most of us hope we will never need a blood transfusion. We hope the people we love will never face a medical emergency, cancer, a serious illness, or unexpected surgery. But when those moments happen, blood must already be there.

That is why Miller-Keystone Blood Center exists. As our region's community blood center, MKBC ensures that the hospitals we serve have the blood products their patients need, when they need them most.

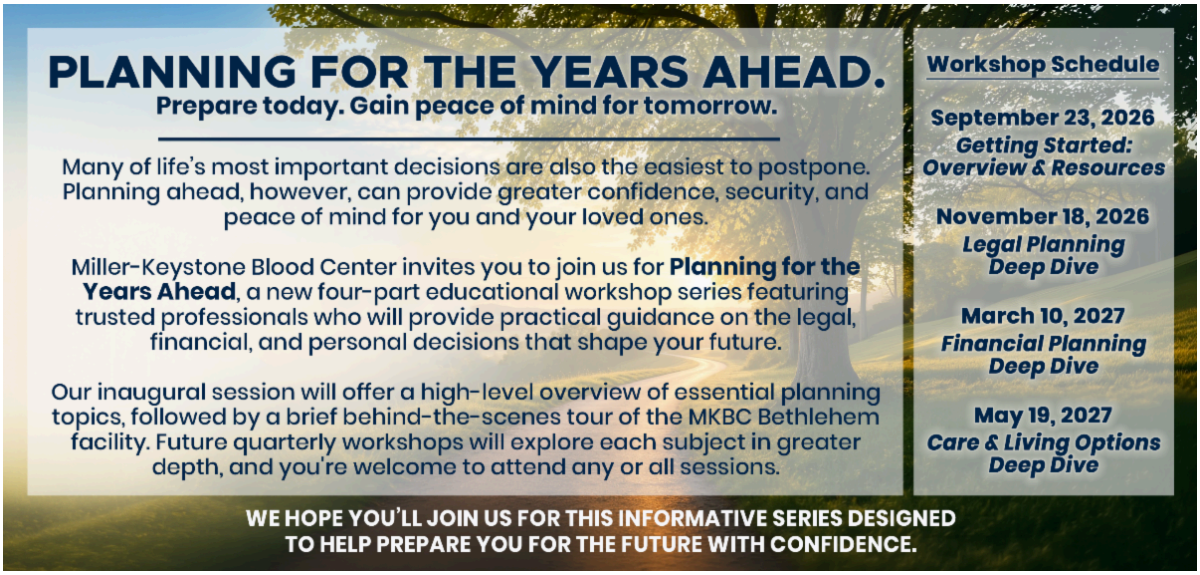
- **Blood cannot be manufactured.** Every red blood cell, platelet, and unit of plasma comes from someone who chose to help another person. And every step from blood donor to patient requires expertise, equipment, testing, transportation, and financial resources.

- **Each year, MKBC delivers more than 100,000 blood products to hospitals across Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey.** So, if you donate blood, thank you. You have already given something deeply personal and lifesaving. If you have supported MKBC financially, thank you. Your generosity protects the safety and availability of our blood supply. And if you are new to our mission, we invite you to become part of this essential community effort.

- **A gift to The MKBC Fund keeps this lifesaving system strong,** supporting supplies, equipment, testing, transportation and the skilled professionals who make it all possible.

This work belongs to all of us. When a patient receives blood, it means our community answered the call before the crisis arrived. Please consider making a gift to The MKBC Fund today. **Your gift impacts lives right here in our community. Thank you for standing with Miller-Keystone Blood Center and the patients who depend on us.**

CLICK HERE TO SEND A GIFT



CLICK HERE TO RSVP AND SELECT THE WORKSHOP(S) YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND

UPCOMING MKBC PROMOTIONS & GIVEAWAYS



HEART & HUSTLE is a partnership opportunity designed to **connect fitness communities with our lifesaving mission**. Supported by former NFL running back and fitness leader **Andre Williams**, it brings together strength, friendly competition, and community impact. Local gyms become part of something bigger, turning everyday workouts into real, lifesaving action.

WE ARE. . . . LIFESAVERS! Donte blood at any MKBC donor center, satellite or blood drive from August 10-September 13, and you can enter to win **a set of four (4) tickets, including parking pass, to Penn State vs. Wisconsin** (homecoming) on Saturday, September 26.

THIRD ANNUAL SAINT JANUARIUS BLOOD DRIVE: Register to donate blood from September 19 - December 16 under your **Diocese of Allentown** group code, and receive a Saint Januarius pendant blessed by the Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert, Bishop of the Diocese of Allentown. Saint Januarius prayer cards and magnets blessed by the Bishop will also be available for blood donors.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE

SCHEDULE YOUR LIFESAVING BLOOD DONATION HERE

Myth: "I'm going to [company X] to donate and get paid."

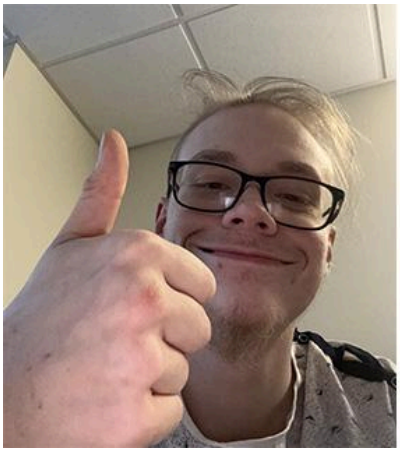


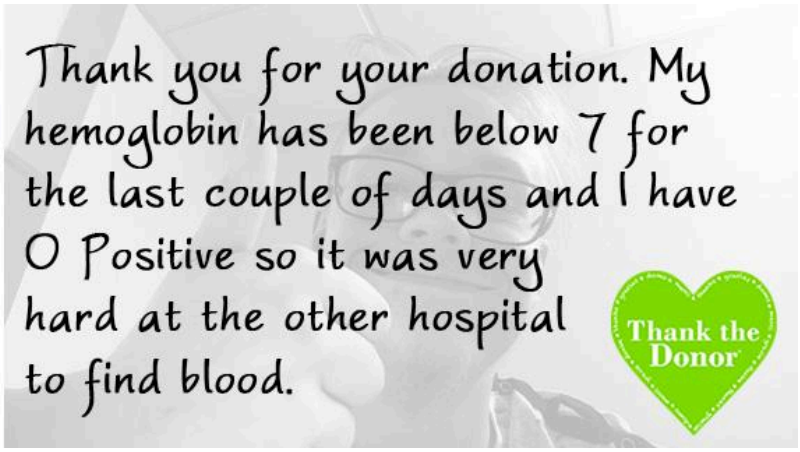
FACT: Yes, there are organizations in some communities where you can donate your blood/ plasma and receive monetary compensation.

The difference is that, as determined by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), **blood products from individuals who have been paid to donate cannot be used for lifesaving transfusion to humans in the United States.** Donations from individuals who have been paid to give can be used for research purposes or the pharmaceutical creation of medicines only.

A complete list of donor eligibility guidelines is available at GiveAPint.org/who-can-donate-blood/. 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!

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

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