

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COMMUNITY BLOOD CENTER RECOGNIZES **WORLD BLOOD DONOR DAY**

APPLETON, JUNE 3 – In conjunction with blood centers around the world, the Community Blood Center will be celebrating World Blood Donor Day (WBDD) this June. WBDD, on Sunday June 14, will be celebrated by the blood center the week of June 8-14. The event is designed to raise awareness of the need for safe blood around the world, to thank and honor blood donors, and to encourage healthy, eligible people to give blood regularly.

“In recognizing WBDD, the Community Blood Center honors blood donors for their generous contributions and encourages others to follow their example,” said Scott Caswell, Director of Donor Resources and Community Development. “Our blood supply is a result of healthy, caring citizens voluntarily donating blood to be used by anyone who needs it. Blood transfusions are something we take for granted, but which help save lives every day.”

In the days preceding June 14, the Community Blood Center is holding several blood drives throughout the Fox Valley. The Community Blood Center has donor centers in Appleton, Oshkosh and Little Chute, which are also open throughout the week. To learn about nearby blood drives or donor centers, call (800) 280-4102 or go to www.save3lives.org.

Donating blood is a safe, simple process. Donors must be at least 17 years old (16 with parental permission), weigh at least 110 pounds, be in general good health, and bring a photo ID. Donors are encouraged to eat a regular meal and drink plenty of fluids prior to donating.

“Research shows that around 38% of the U.S. population is eligible to give blood. The people who choose to regularly give blood play a crucial role in ensuring a steady blood supply,” said Caswell. “Hospital patients receive blood transfusions 365 days a year, and blood donors help make these lifesaving transfusions possible. WBDD gives us a chance to celebrate their lifesaving efforts.”

The Community Blood Center encourages people to make giving blood a regular part of their lives. People may schedule a donation appointment by calling (800) 280-4102 or going to www.save3lives.org. Scheduling an appointment in advance reduces waiting time, keeping the total time required for a donation to less than an hour. Walk-in donors are always welcome. For additional information about World Blood Donor Day, visit www.wbdd.org.

The Community Blood Center has provided blood to Wisconsin hospitals since 1955. The non-profit blood center is committed to providing a safe, reliable blood supply for local patients. The Community Blood Center has donor centers in Appleton, Little Chute, Oshkosh, Merrill, and Arbor Vitae, and holds around 125 blood drives each month.

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