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Media contact:
San Diego Blood Bank: Claudine Van Gonka/Director, Community Relations & Media
C (619) 455-7785, cvangonka@sandiegobloodbank.org

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SAN DIEGO BLOOD BANK ENCOURAGES DONATIONS AHEAD OF NOVEMBER SYSTEM TRANSITION

Donors needed over the next two weeks to help maintain an ample blood supply for local hospital patients

SAN DIEGO (October 22, 2026) - San Diego Blood Bank is asking community members to donate blood over the next two weeks to help ensure hospitals continue to have a steady blood supply as the organization prepares to transition to a new blood-management system in November.

Donor centers will close early on Sunday, Nov. 8, and will be closed on Monday, Nov. 9 along with community blood drives to support the transition. Because hospital patients need blood every day, donations made before the transition will strengthen the available supply and support patients during the temporary pause in blood collections.

Community members who are eligible to donate are encouraged to schedule an appointment now at SanDiegoBloodBank.org. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are encouraged. As a token of appreciation, all donors who donate this month will receive a special-edition T-shirt featuring Thing® from the Addams Family®.

"A great way our community can help ensure a stable blood supply this fall is to donate blood before November 8," said Douglas Morton, CEO of San Diego Blood Bank. "A strong blood supply going into this transition will help us continue meeting the needs of hospital patients who depend on blood every day."

Beginning Nov. 10, San Diego Blood Bank will transition to a modernized blood-management system, making the donation experience easier for donors.

One of the most visible changes for donors will be Donor QuickPass, which will allow donors to complete their health questionnaire online on the same day they donate. After completing the questionnaire on a phone, tablet or computer, donors will receive a QR code to present when they arrive.

To be eligible to donate blood, individuals must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds, and be in general good health. To view donor center locations, find a blood drive or make an appointment, visit SanDiegoBloodBank.org.

About San Diego Blood Bank

San Diego Blood Bank, also operating as Southern California Blood Bank, is a nonprofit blood and biotherapies healthcare organization dedicated to saving lives and advancing community health. As part of one of the nation's largest nonprofit blood services providers, Vitalant, San Diego Blood Bank serves hospitals throughout Southern California with a safe and reliable blood supply, specialized laboratory services, transfusion medicine expertise and support for medical research. Through the generosity of blood donors, volunteers, and financial supporters, the organization is committed to improving patient outcomes and advancing innovation in healthcare for the communities it serves. Learn more at SanDiegoBloodBank.org.

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