



A Not-For-Profit
Community-Supported
Blood Bank

06/16/2005

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NEWS RELEASE

Suncoast Communities Blood Bank Still In Critical Need of Donations NR#05-09

Suncoast Communities Blood Bank is still in **critical need** of blood donations. The Blood Bank is **operating at less than a day's supply** of blood for our community and once again asks that all eligible blood donors and those interested in donating to please donate. **The most needed blood types at this time are O positive and all negatives.** It is imperative that an adequate supply of blood is available to our community should emergency or trauma situations arise. This need for blood affects the efficiency of medical care that is given to patients in Sarasota, Charlotte and DeSoto Counties. Suncoast Communities Blood Bank services hospitals within these areas, and the hospitals rely, daily, on donated blood from volunteer donors to meet the demand necessary for sustaining life.

According to the National Blood Exchange (NBE), there is a general blood shortage nationwide for all types of blood, especially affecting Florida. The summer season is also when Suncoast Communities Blood Bank and other blood banks experience a decline in blood donations. The decline here in Southwest Florida can be attributed to the departure of seasonal residents as they return north and people taking vacations. Many people don't give because they have never been asked or think that their medical condition would not allow them to donate. People with many medical conditions can donate. One blood donation can help save up to three lives!

To qualify to donate, a person must be at least 17 years of age, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in generally good health. To find out more about qualifications or how to make a blood donation, call 941-954-1600 extension 240 or visit www.scbb.org for more information. Walk-in donors are welcome.

The following Suncoast Communities Blood Bank locations or bloodmobiles are open for donations:

Today (06-16-05)

Sarasota

Suncoast Communities Blood Bank
1760 Mound Street
Open Until 7:00 p.m.

Nokomis

1097 North Tamiami Trail

Open until 6:00 p.m.

Friday (06-17-05)**Sarasota**

Suncoast Communities Blood Bank

1760 Mound Street

Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sarasota Bloodmobile Locations:

Sarasota Commerce Center II. Arthur Andersen Parkway. Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Arrow Environmental. 6183 Palmer Boulevard. Hours: 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sarasota Herald Tribune Facility. 1800 University Parkway. Hours: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday (06-18-05)**Sarasota**

Suncoast Communities Blood Bank

1760 Mound Street

Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Sarasota Bloodmobile Location:

Crossings Shopping Center. 5421 Fruitville Road. Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Venice Bloodmobile Location:

Wal-Mart. 4150 South Tamiami Trail. Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Suncoast Communities Blood Bank is not affiliated with the American Red Cross.

1760 Mound Street
Sarasota, FL 34236-7761

1097 N. Tamiami Trail
Nokomis, FL 34275-2163

710 N. Brevard Avenue
Arcadia, FL 34266-8778

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