



A Not-For-Profit
Community-Supported
Blood Bank

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NEWS RELEASE

Hearts and Hammers

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Suncoast Communities Blood Bank and Habitat for Humanity have teamed up to help support each other through a first time joint effort called "Hearts and Hammers". This is a partnership designed to help bring volunteer help to both organizations through a friendly competition. It also allows both organizations to show the public that they are giving back to community and supporting each other. Hearts stands for Suncoast Communities Blood Bank and Hammers, appropriately, for Habitat for Humanity.

Suncoast Communities Blood Bank employees and friends, on volunteer time, will help build a Habitat for Humanity house at Habitat's Jordan's Crossing location, Tuttle and 8th Street, in Sarasota on March 18th from 7:30 a.m. to Noon. The Blood Bank challenged Habitat for Humanity to try and outnumber SCBB's volunteer numbers by recruiting people to take part in a blood drive. The blood drive will take place at Habitat's Home Improvement Outlet Store on April 15th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at 1757 North East Avenue. The organization with the highest number of volunteers recruited to help with their cause will win a trophy.

"This is an exciting opportunity for Suncoast Communities Blood Bank to interact with the community and partner with such an esteemed organization as Habitat for Humanity. With the help of blood bank employees and friends on a volunteer basis to reach out in the community, it really shows we are community-oriented and focused on helping people live a better life, whether it be through our life-saving efforts or by offering life-changing services," said Dr. Mark Magenheimer, CEO and Medical Director of Suncoast Communities Blood Bank.

Mike Jacobson, Executive Director of Habitat added, "Habitat for Humanity is all about partnership. We can only accomplish our mission of creating affordable housing opportunities in Sarasota by coming together with groups across all sectors of the community. I'm delighted that the Blood Bank approached us with ways we can help each other. This is a unique opportunity for both agencies to reach more volunteers and donors and to generate support outside our regular constituencies."

Suncoast Communities Blood Bank has served Sarasota, Charlotte and DeSoto Counties for 57 years by providing a reliable supply of quality blood products and services to those in need at all times in its service area.

Habitat for Humanity completed and dedicated its first two houses in Sarasota in September 1986. Habitat for Humanity Sarasota is a non-profit organization dedicated to building a better community, one house at a time.

For more information about "Hearts and Hammers" please call Mary K. Williams, Suncoast Communities Blood Bank Volunteer Coordinator, at 941-954-1600 ext 235 or Laurie Colton, Volunteer Manager for Habitat for Humanity, at 941-365-0700.

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