



News Release

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Blood Bank Granted Re-Accreditation

Sarasota, FL- Suncoast Communities Blood Bank (SCBB) was recently notified it was granted re-accreditation by the American Association of Blood Banks (AABB). The accreditation distinguishes SCBB as an organization in full compliance with the highest possible industry standards for delivering safe blood products. The accreditation process occurs every two years and entails rigorous site inspections and assessments of SCBB's operating procedures regarding blood collection, processing, storage, testing, matching and transfusing. This examination is conducted by AABB-trained assessors representing blood centers throughout the country.

"Blood banking is a heavily regulated field," says Diana Berry, Director of Quality Assurance for SCBB. "We pride ourselves on continually providing the utmost level of patient and donor safety and care. It is imperative we remain on top of all new regulatory standards to ensure a secure blood supply for our community."

The blood banking profession is regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) which establishes the rules and regulations that ensure the safety of the nation's blood supply. AABB publishes standards every 18 months to address the continual changes in the industry as defined by the FDA. AABB accreditation demonstrates an organization's commitment to advanced learning, continuous improvement and innovation.

Who We Are

Suncoast Communities Blood Bank is a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit community supported blood bank that has served Sarasota, Charlotte and DeSoto Counties since 1949. Suncoast Communities Blood Bank (SCBB) is the sole provider of blood and blood services to five hospitals: Sarasota Memorial, Doctors Hospital, DeSoto Memorial Hospital and HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospitals. In addition, SCBB provides blood to Bayflite medical helicopter, several outpatient medical and dialysis facilities and serves as the transfusion service for Sarasota Memorial Hospital, transfusing approximately 6,000 patients per year. For more information call 1-866-97BLOOD or visit www.scbb.org

About AABB

AABB was established in 1953 to develop standards for blood centers and then to accredit blood centers in accordance with those standards.

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