

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The
Community
Blood
Center
Inc.

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OPEN HOUSE PLANNED AT COMMUNITY BLOOD CENTER

“Behind the Scenes” Tours to be Offered

APPLETON, WI, Sept 1– In celebration of the remodel and expansion project at its Appleton facility, the Community Blood Center is hosting an Open House on Saturday Sept. 12. The Open House will run from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 4406 West Spencer Street in Appleton, just south of the Fox River Mall. Members of the general public, blood donors, and blood drive coordinators are invited to attend.

Light refreshments will be served, and those who attend will be able to take “behind the scenes” tours of the entire building– even areas which are usually off-limits to the general public. Tours will include the blood processing area, testing laboratory, renovated collection floor, new donor cafe, and remodeled recruitment areas.

The building on Spencer Street was constructed in 1992, and the Community Blood Center’s operations have more than doubled since that time. The original structure contained 19,000 square feet, and the expanded facility has 36,000 square feet. The expansion and upgrade will help the Community Blood Center meet projected increases in the need for blood.

American blood centers are highly regulated by the FDA (Food and Drug Administration), and every blood donation undergoes more than 10 blood tests. There have been many technological advancements in blood testing during the past 15 years. While these developments have resulted in one of the safest blood supplies in the world, complex equipment is often required to perform the blood tests. The updated laboratory will enable the Community Blood Center to stay on the cutting edge of testing developments, offering hospitals the best possible blood products for transfusion to their patients.

The goal of the building project helps fulfill the basic purpose of the Community Blood Center: providing a safe and ample blood supply for area hospitals. The blood center collects over 50,000 donations each year from volunteer blood donors and provides 100% of the blood used by patients in 17 Wisconsin hospitals. In the Fox Valley, the blood center serves Appleton Medical Center, St. Elizabeth Hospital, Theda Clark Medical Center, and Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin-Fox Valley.

The non-profit blood center has donor centers in Appleton, Little Chute, and Oshkosh, and holds around 100 blood drives every month. The Community Blood Center is also a donor center with the Be the Match Registry, sponsored by the National Marrow Donor Program.

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