

For Immediate Release



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Hurricane Delta prompts Bloodworks Northwest to send emergency shipment to Louisiana

Northwest Donors Urged to Help

Seattle, WA — An emergency supply of 35 units from Bloodworks Northwest donors is getting ready to ship Friday to New Orleans, Louisiana in response to a request for help from the state preparing for a powerful storm. Hurricane Delta is now a category 3 and Bloodworks Northwest and its donors are helping community hospitals prepare for whatever the storm surge may bring. Experts at Bloodworks Northwest are concerned that a low inventory of Type O blood will leave them hard-pressed to respond to the next local or national emergency while continuing to meet the needs of the Pacific Northwest hospitals that count on Bloodworks for even common procedures like surgeries.

“While our local supplies of Type O have been tight in recent weeks, we feel it’s absolutely critical to help Louisiana be ready for the storm,” said Bloodworks President and CEO Curt Bailey. “In March, when Seattle was the first epicenter of the COVID-19 pandemic, blood centers around the country came forward in our own time of need. Our primary mission is always to support local patients, and our local donors make it possible to do whatever we can to help when catastrophes happen near and far.”

Locally, high patient need is straining the blood supply. Bloodworks reports type O usage is up 24% since March – the highest in over a year – and is urgently asking the community to help.

“Hospitals are seeing an increase in traumas and situations requiring blood,” said Bailey. “Overall blood usage is up 20% which translates to an additional 600 units of blood each week. This is unsustainable unless more community members step up to fill these growing needs.”

Bloodworks has convenient [donor centers](#) and unique [pop-up locations](#) throughout the Pacific Northwest providing safe, spacious locations for area blood donors to give the blood supply a boost. First-time and repeat donors are urged to make their one-hour donation [appointments](#) today. When you donate this in October, you will learn if you have [COVID-19 antibodies](#) that may help patients currently fighting coronavirus.

It typically takes 1,000 donors of all blood types each day to [make appointments](#) to give blood in support of cancer patients, trauma victims, premature babies, or to treat severely ill COVID-19 patients, among others. Donations with Bloodworks provide 95% of the lifesaving blood supply to Pacific

Northwest hospitals. Appointments and masks required. In accordance with current social distancing guidelines, no walk-ins, guests, or people under age 16 are permitted onsite

Bloodworks has posted information addressing questions and concerns for blood donors at bloodworksnw.org/coronavirus. Blood donation takes about an hour from registration to post-donation refreshment. Information about [who can donate](#) and where, is available at www.bloodworksnw.org.

Additional Resources:

For the latest information on COVID-19 please visit the [CDC website](#), Washington State Department of Health [COVID-19 main page](#), and [Oregon Health Authority](#).

Bloodworks Donor Centers and Pop-Up Centers:

Appointments and information at BloodworksNW.org or 800-398-7888. See our list of [Donor Centers](#) and [Pop-Up locations](#).

- Bellevue Center
1807 132nd Avenue NE
Bellevue, WA 98005
425-453-4200
- Bellingham Center
410 W Bakerview Rd., Suite 117
Bellingham, WA 98226
360-671-8848
- Central Seattle
921 Terry Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104
206-292-6500
- Everett Center
2703 Oakes Avenue
Everett, WA 98201
425-740-2909
- Federal Way Center
1414 S 324TH Street, B101
Federal Way, WA 98003
253-945-8660
- Lynnwood Center
19723 Highway 99, Suite F
Lynnwood, WA 98036
425-412-1000
- Olympia Center
1220 Eastside Street SE
Olympia, WA 98501
360-596-3950
- North Seattle Center
10357 Stone Avenue N
Seattle, WA 98133
206-526-1970
- Silverdale Center
3230 NW Randall Way
Silverdale, WA 98383
360-308-7340
- Tukwila Center
130 Andover Park E
Tukwila, WA 98188
206-241-6300
- Vancouver, WA Donor Center
9320 NE Vancouver Mall Blvd, Suite100
Vancouver, WA 98662
360-567-4800
- Eugene, OR Center
2211 Willamette St
Eugene, OR 97405
541-484-9111

About Bloodworks Northwest – Bloodworks Northwest is backed by 75 years of Northwest history and 250,000 donors. It is local, nonprofit, independent, volunteer-supported and community-based. A recognized leader in transfusion medicine, Bloodworks serves patients at hospitals in Washington, Oregon and Alaska — partnering closely with local hospitals to deliver the highest level of patient care. Comprehensive services include blood components, complex cross-matching, specialized lab services for organ transplants, care for patients with blood disorders, and collection of cord blood stem cells for cancer treatment. Bloodworks Research Institute performs leading-edge research in blood biology,

transfusion medicine, blood storage and treatment of blood disorders. Patients with traumatic injuries, undergoing surgeries or organ transplantation, or receiving treatment for cancer and blood disorders all depend on our services, expertise, laboratories and research. Blood donation appointments can be scheduled at bloodworksnw.org.