

A Message for Those Considering Donating Blood During the COVID-19 Outbreak

Our immediate need for blood donors has been met, but we will continue to need donors over the next several weeks to maintain our blood supply.

Donors can make an appointment online at donor.stmarysbloodcenter.org, and click on donate now in the top menu bar.

Here is a little more information about donating during this time:

Donating blood is a safe process and doesn't lower a person's immune system or health, and there is no data that the COVID-19 or any other respiratory virus can be transmitted via blood transfusion. Healthy people should not hesitate to give. Donation takes as few as 45 minutes and one donation can save as many as three lives.

"We need blood every day of the year for cancer patients, trauma patients, surgeries, maternal and perinatal care. It's vital that we are prepared for any need that arises. The blood on the shelf is what saves lives. We are the primary blood supplier for the entire Western Slope and Eastern Utah, serving 19 hospitals," said Jennifer Rhamy, Blood Center Director.

The Blood Center has increased safety protocols to help prevent the spread of any type of infection, including:

- Asking all donors to use hand sanitizer when entering the donor center or bloodmobile as well as throughout the donation process.
- Enhanced disinfection of all surfaces and equipment after each donor.
- Asking donors to make appointments so flow and crowding can be controlled.