

Donating Blood Saves Lives

Most people don't realize that donating blood truly does save the lives of hospital patients in need. More than 38,000 people need donated blood every day and it is estimated that 90% of the population over the age of 70 will require the use of donated blood at some point in their life.

Cancer patients are the number one recipients of blood and blood products, however there are many other reasons why someone may need donated blood. For example, coronary artery bypass surgery requires up to five units of donated blood, joint replacement operations can use up to twenty units of blood, accident or trauma victims sometimes need up to fifty units of blood and patients undergoing an organ transplant surgery could use one hundred units of donated blood.

Hospital patients are relying on you. Your blood donation can help up to three different hospital patients. Join The Blood Center of Iowa and Virginia Gay Hospital as they host a blood drive for hospital employees and their family members. The blood drive will take place on Thursday, May 10 from 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. in the Cafeteria.

The Blood Center of Iowa provides blood and blood products to 49 hospitals in 44 Iowa counties, including Virginia Gay Hospital. Eligible donors must be at least 16 years of age, be in general good health and weigh at least 120 pounds. To learn more, contact The Blood Center of Iowa at 800-287-4903 or go online to www.bloodcenterofiowa.org.