



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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San Diego Cares Blood Drive collects more than 700 pints of blood

San Diego Cares: It's in our Blood, hosted by the San Diego Blood Bank, collected more than 700 pints of much-needed blood for the holiday season during today's event at the Town & Country Hotel and Convention Center in Mission Valley, the Blood Bank announced tonight.

Not only a blood drive, but a celebration of San Diego's rich sports history, the event brought together representatives from the San Diego Padres, Chargers, Gulls, Sockers and Kings, along with those from San Diego State, the University of San Diego, the Tijuana Xolos, the 1904 Football Club, the Holiday Bowl and the NASCAR Foundation.

"We would like to thank all of the members of the local sports community, especially **Ron Fowler** and the Padres, and **Rolf Benirschke** for all of their hard work to make this blood drive a tremendous success," said San Diego Blood Bank CEO **David Wellis**. "This time of year, we typically see a decrease in blood donations, yet the holidays typically generate the highest demand for blood in our local hospitals. We appreciate the support of the entire community, especially the donors. We can't do it without them."

This year's event was sponsored in part by the San Diego County Honda Dealers, Darryl and Kathy Issa and the Issa Family Foundation, and the Shiley Foundation. As part of **San Diego Cares: It's in our Blood**, the San Diego County Honda Dealers gave away a Honda CR-V during today's blood drive. The winner was **Terri Baxter** from San Diego.

About the San Diego Blood Bank

SDBB is dedicated to community health by providing a reliable supply of blood to patients in need. Our vision is to further ensure the health of our community by simultaneously delivering related health and wellness education and services and extending into research. SDBB is an independent, 501©(3) non-profit that serves hospitals in San Diego, Orange, Imperial and Los Angeles counties with blood transfusion products and reference laboratory services. SDBB currently operates six local donor centers and 10 bloodmobiles. SDBB's Cell Therapy Program provides lifesaving stem cell transplants to patients worldwide. For more information about SDBB, visit www.SanDiegoBloodBank.org or connect with us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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