

ARUP Blood Services Requirements for Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Community Blood Drive

As a local supplier of blood to The University of Utah Hospitals and Clinics, Primary Children's Medical Center, Shriners Hospital for Children and the Huntsman Cancer Institute, ARUP Blood Services willingly accepts proposals from Life Scouts wanting to hold community blood drives to meet the Eagle Scout requirement for Leadership Service Projects. A successfully organized blood drive can directly benefit the local community by providing life-saving blood components to patients in need.

ARUP Blood Services will provide the Life Scout (hereafter called "coordinator") with promotional materials; however, the coordinator must perform a myriad of organizational and leadership functions to ensure the success of the event. Proposals for a community blood drive as an Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project must be based on the following requirements:

BLOOD DRIVE DATE: ARUP Blood Services generally schedules blood drives months in advance; however, on some occasions, a date may be available upon shorter notice. The coordinator should work with an ARUP Blood Services representative to schedule the blood drive at least eight weeks in advance. A successful blood drive will also require four weeks of preparation and promotion. **Note:** Most blood drives are scheduled to last anywhere from four to six hours. And, if a situation gives good reason, a blood drive can be scheduled for more than one day.

LOCATION: The blood drive must be held indoors at an approved facility that meets FDA requirements for size, donor confidentiality, temperature, safety, parking and availability of utilities and equipment (tables and chairs). The coordinator is responsible for finding a suitable location, subject to inspection and approval by an ARUP Blood Services representative.

DONORS: The coordinator will be held responsible for signing up a pre-set number of qualified blood donors prior to the blood drive. The coordinator will also be held responsible for a pre-set number of viable units of blood collected at the blood drive. Generally, the coordinator will need a minimum of 75 pre-qualified donors signed up to obtain 50 viable units of blood at the drive. (**Note:** Experience indicates that up to one third of the people who sign up to donate will either not show up or will be deferred from donating.) A representative from ARUP Blood Services will work with the coordinator and with his leader(s) to set a reasonable goal for signups and units to be collected at the blood drive. The coordinator will be held responsible for reaching those goals. If the set goals are not met, ARUP Blood Services may choose to NOT sign the paperwork stating the project has been successfully completed.

COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP: To ensure the success of the blood drive, the coordinator must use the "committee approach," which will be directed by an ARUP Blood Services representative. This approach includes organizing, training and overseeing the following:

- **Recruitment Committee:** This committee is comprised of individuals who advertise the blood drive, recruit donors and remind the donors of their scheduled appointment. Members of this committee are trained on blood donor qualifications, "sales" strategies and general blood donation procedures. The size of this committee should be at least one member for every 15 people signed up to donate.
- **Refreshment Committee** (optional): Although ARUP Blood Services will provide a few refreshments and beverages for the blood donors, additional refreshments are always appreciated by both ARUP Blood Services and by the blood donors. The Refreshment Committee is made up of two to three individuals who make or recruit contributors of refreshments—such as cookies and punch—for the blood drive. Generally, for every 10 donors, one gallon of beverage and two dozen cookies are needed. Refreshments can be made by individuals, purchased (following a fundraiser) or solicited from local businesses. Other refreshments such as pizza, donuts and sodas are suggested for variety. This committee can also be responsible for acquiring "thank-you gifts" for donors (i.e., 2-for-1 coupons, T-shirts, small raffle items, etc.).
- **Blood Drive Workers:** This team of two to five volunteers works *at* the blood drive performing tasks such as setting up tables and chairs, helping unload equipment, greeting donors at the registration table, controlling donor flow, calling "no-show" donors, assisting with refreshment distribution, babysitting donors' children, recording the day's activities via photographs or videotape, entertaining donors with videos or wholesome music and assisting with the cleanup after the drive.

RESULTS: A scout who chooses to organize a blood drive for his Eagle Scout Leadership Project will have the opportunity to learn skills that will prove invaluable throughout his life. These skills include organization, delegation, persuasion, event coordinating and goal reaching. Not only will this project benefit the scout, it will forever change the lives of others in his community.