Volunteer Times

For LifeServe Blood Center Volunteers!

What an Interesting Summer!

Well these last 3 months have been some of the strangest 3 months I have ever experienced. We saw the complete shut down of the United States, the state of Iowa and the city of Des Moines. Through all that LifeServe was able to maintain a stable blood supply. Some of it was due to hospitals reducing their demand because of the lack of elective surgeries, but most of it was because our community showed up in droves to support us. It truly illustrated to me what it means to be a community blood center, emphasis on the community. I also noticed that we would not have been able to make it through the darkest days without the support of all of our volunteers and your willingness to be flexible, to be patient, and to think outside of the box. You helped save lives, and for that I thank you.

- Kyle Charles

Re-Cap of Quarter 2

Although LifeServe Blood Center stayed open throughout the shutdowns, we still did feel the impact of the shutdown. Since third week of March we have lost more than 500 blood drives and more than 13,000 blood donations. Unfortunately when everything struck in Iowa, we were approaching out busiest season: school season. Not only did we lose all the units from the healthy young donors in our high schools and colleges, but we also lost the opportunity to gain all those first time donors as well. Combine that with all the businesses closing or requiring employees to work from home, we went from averaging about 100 blood drives a week to averaging about 20 blood drives a week. It took some time for things to get back to "normal" but we are still not where we were pre-COVID.

Through all this, I do need to mention some positives that came from all this. Outside of the amazing community response to our initial plea and seeing new/lapsed donors come through our doors, the FDA updated deferral guidelines that have been in place for a long time, and were a bit outdated. Although there were several changes, the ones that will have the biggest impact are:

- 1. Military travel to Europe deferral being lifted (including Mad-Cow!)
- 2. Travel to Malarial risk area deferral: now a 3 month deferral
- 3. HIV risk factor deferral: now a 3 month deferral
- 4. Post-surgery deferral: now a 3 month deferral

LOOKING FORWARD

Looking into the next 3 months to year it is tough to have a good prediction of what we will have going on. LifeServe does have some goals of new programs to roll out, but with the dependency on places like hospitals, it will be a challenge to meet those goals. As for events, we have seen many already cancel. The Iowa State Fair announced they will not be open this year, so obviously we will not have our normal booth for blood typing. We do have media drives still scheduled, but we would not be shocked if some of them begin to be cancelled as well, especially the ones that do not occur inside a donor center. As for internal LifeServe events, the Care Committee is still meeting on a regular basis to review what opportunities we have. However with the virus still prevalent and the ongoing focus for social distancing this could also be difficult. I will try and keep everyone as up-to-date as possible, but if you ever have any questions please ask!

Thank you for all your help throughout all this. Like I said initially, we would not have made it through those darkest days without your help. So on behalf of everyone, thank you!











Your Blood. Your Hospital. Your Neighbors.

Welcome Aboard!

Say hello to the new faces volunteering at LifeServe





Rick Tierney Des Moines Driver



Ethan Bennett, Des Moines Driver



Holly Rebelez, Des Moines Driver



Rachel Weber, Des Moines Driver



Rick Huss, Des Moines Driver



Tim Uecker, Des Moines Driver



Judy Vonnahme, Des Moines Driver, Blood Drive Help



Ruaa Alobaidi, Des Moines



Sandy Luong, Des Moines



Katherine Berber-Solis, Des Moines Call Center



Monte Engh, Des Moines



Steven Tanner, Des Moines Driver



Abiola Doyeni, Des Moines Call Center

Chance Frerichs, Mason City Driver

Mark Your Calendars!

July:

1-3: Battle of the Badges Blood Drive (all donor centers)

24: KJJY Blood Drive (Urb and DM)

31: Van and Bonnie Blood Drive (DM)

August:

6: Iowa Cubs Blood Drive (DM)

7: Blood Donor Day (SC)

14: KBRX 102.9 Blood Drive (Oniell, NE)

28: Alpha Media Blood Drive (MC)

28: MercyOne at Jordan Creek Mall Blood Drive (DM)

September:

4: 104.1 The Wolf Blood Drive(Yankton, SD)

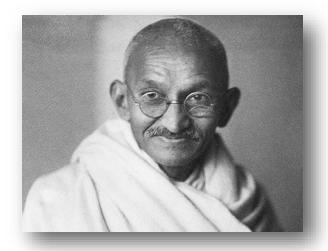
4: KXNO Football Kick-off Blood Drive (DM)

11: Heroes Behind the Badges LifeServe's Annual Tailgate Cookout

18: MercyOne Air Med Blood Drive (DM)

ANNIVERSARIES

First Name	Last Name	Years Served	First Name	Last Name	Years Served
Sameer	Upadhye	1 year	Joe	Gibbs	5 years
Glen	Jeffrey	1 year	Joyce	Weigel	5 years
Ginny	Knudston	1 year	Steve	Pringle	5 years
Paul	McConeghey	1 year	Jeff	Hogan	5 years
Steve	Sharnberg	1 year	Marilyn	Hydrick	5 years
Emily	Klein	2 years	Ed	Allen	5 years
Anne	Caudron	2 years	Ron	Bauer	6 years
Cynthia	Fisher	2 years	Deb	Bauer	6 years
Dyana	Kubiak	2 years	Deena	LaRue	6 years
Naomi	Harris	2 years	Bob	Kennard	6 years
Mike	Peters	2 years	Steve	Rosenow	6 years
Cristy	Tass	2 years	Lolane	Smith	7 years
Norma	Hoos	2 years	Phil	Crum	7 years
Jacqueline	Ehrlich	3 years	Jim	Thomas	8 years
Emily	Merfeld	3 years	Ina	Hubbard-Heidemann	9 years
Kyle	Merfeld	3 years	JoAn	McLeod	10 years
Emma	Bishop	3 years	Vicente	Murillo	10 years
Ethan	Bishop	3 years	Darold	Pipho	10 years
Jan	Carl	3 years	Richard	Martel	10 years
Larry	Carl	3 years	Jody	Watts	10 years
Jim	Egger	3 years	Daryl	Johnson	11 years
Annie	Woiwood	3 years	Evie	Nemec	17 years
Bob	Woodard	4 years	Jim	McCullough	19 years
Susan	Woodard	4 years	Warren	Pitcher	20 years
Deanna	Keehn	4 years			
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"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others "

-- Mahatma Gandhí



Do you know someone who wants to volunteer, or do you have any questions? Contact Us!

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Claire DeRoin

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