

Battle of the Badges 2026

Our community truly showed up for one another during the 9th Annual Battle of the Badges Blood Drive, proving once again how much heart our local heroes and community have.

The final numbers are in, and taking home the coveted Redwood Trophy for the 3rd year in a row is the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office, bringing in 58 donations! Right behind them, the Eureka Police Department gave a strong showing with 43 donations.

Throughout the week, 246 people showed up to donate whole blood (that's 14 more than last year). Together, you helped us collect 197 units of whole blood. Which is what this friendly competition is all about. Our lab team got right to work processing these units, which were sent to hospitals and patients in need. Everyone knows how valuable those O's are so I wanted to share that we collected 112 units of type O blood. We also had 37 generous apheresis donors throughout the week (not included in the 246 whole blood donor count), with several of them dedicating their time and lifesaving blood on behalf of their chosen agencies.

We were thrilled to welcome some amazing new competitors this year, too: the Fortuna Police Department showed up in full force on the bloodmobile to win this year's Highest Percentage Award (congratulations, Lieutenant Kadle), and crowd-favorite Smokey Bear made a special first-time appearance alongside his awesome team from the U.S. Forest Service! Cutest contributor to our week long event was- Daisy, a certified K9 hero with the Humboldt County Sheriff's Search and Rescue (SAR) Team.

We have to recognize our sponsors who work hard behind the scenes to pull this event off- the coordination, and public outreach this year was a huge driving force to the success of this blood drive, their enthusiasm for our mission showed! Our social media was on fire, we've never felt more popular- its those efforts that engage with our community and rally

those who may not have donated previously. With 12 different agencies participating, you and your supporters helped make sure our blood supply stays strong through the rest of the summer. To every single person who donated, cheered us on, or helped spread the word, we thank you for being part of this effort.

Thank you to the following agencies who answered call to save lives! Appearing Agencies: Humboldt County Sheriff's Office, Eureka Police Department, Arcata Police Department, Fortuna Police Department, Humboldt Bay Fire, Arcata Fire District, Fortuna Volunteer Fire Department, CAL FIRE, Humboldt County Probation, U.S. Forest Service - Six Rivers National Forest, CHP - Humboldt and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife! We can't wait to celebrate our 10th Anniversary Battle of the Badges with you all next year!



August was for the Dogs

Celebrating National Dog Month with Hans, Boomer, and Ketchup stopping by alongside their blood donors was such a highlight! These adorable four-legged supporters completely stole the show, rocking their new bandanas and bringing so much joy to our center while their humans gave the gift of life. Huge thanks to all our awesome donors and their four-legged wingmen for stopping by and making the month so much fun!



Conserving Nature, Preserving Life

For nearly two decades, the Fortuna California Conservation Corps (CCC) has hosted a blood drive every eight weeks without fail. Beyond teaching young adults valuable skills in emergency response, conservation, and public service, the CCC demonstrates a deep commitment to our local community's health. Corps members change year after year, but their spirit of service stays the same. Long standing partnerships like this keep our community strong. A huge thank you to all the corps members, staff, and sponsors for your continued dedication and compassion. We are proud to have you in our donor family!



Campus Drives are Back!

College campus blood drives are a critical lifeline for the blood supply, routinely accounting for nearly 20% of all donations. Bringing mobile collection units straight to campus removes logistical barriers, turning a quick break between classes into an effortless way to save lives. Beyond meeting immediate local needs, campus drives build the future of our blood supply. Introducing students to donation early creates a lifelong habit of giving back. To find our mobile schedule visit our website at nccbb.org.



Upcoming Drives to look forward to:

Del Norte County Public Health Presents
30 Years of Health in our Community

Blood Drive
 Saturday, September 26th
 9:30am - 2pm

Sponsored by:
 Mary Dorman,
 State Farm agent
 and
 Del Norte County
 Public Health

POTTER
 Real Estate Group, Inc.

Wed, September 16th
 11am - 4pm

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY BLOOD BANK
 McKinleyville ACE Home & Garden Center
 Rotary Club of Mid River-McKinleyville

Thursday, September 17th
 10am - 4pm

VETERANS MEMORIAL HALL
 1100 MAIN STREET, FERNDALE

SEPTEMBER 30TH 2026
 4:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Donate blood and enjoy a complimentary dinner prepared by our wonderful local volunteers as a token of their appreciation.

BEAR RIVER CASINO RESORT

Thursday, Sept 10th
 10am - 3pm
 265 Keisher Rd, Loleta

Volunteers Needed

Find the role that fits you. Every role below supports donors and patients on the North Coast.



Scan QR code
for more
information!

Canteen Volunteer

Make local connections while helping donors recharge. As a Canteen Volunteer, you're the warm welcome and friendly face after a donor rolls up their sleeve. You'll serve refreshments, share great conversations with neighbors, and make sure everyone feels comfortable and appreciated post-donation. It's a hands-on way to meet incredible people, brighten someone's day, and directly support lifesaving efforts right here in our community.

Administrative Support

Power the mission behind the scenes and strengthen our neighborhood outreach. Every successful blood drive starts with strong backend support. In an administrative role, you'll work alongside a passionate team assisting with filing, essential mailings, and local recruitment outreach. If you love staying organized and want to make a tangible, lasting difference in local healthcare without working in a clinical setting, this role is a perfect fit.

Blood Drive Assistant

Be at the heart of community action at our local drives. Help us create a smooth, welcoming environment for every donor who walks through the door. As a Blood Drive Assistant, you'll greet community members, guide them through registration, and help our mobile and center drives run seamlessly. You'll connect with people from across the region, knowing your energy and hospitality create the experience that keeps donors coming back.

Driver — Passenger Vehicle

Keep our local supply lines moving and drive real change. Get out into the community and keep operations running smoothly behind the wheel of our standard fleet vehicles. You'll handle local pickups and deliveries, transport vital supplies, and support event setups. It's a rewarding, independent role where every trip directly supports patient care and keeps our regional blood supply moving where it's needed most.

Driver — Bloodmobile

Bring lifesaving donation opportunities directly to our neighbors. Our mobile unit is how we bring the blood bank straight to local schools, businesses, and neighborhood centers. As a Bloodmobile Driver, you'll pilot our specialized vehicle to scheduled drives across the region, positioning the unit so community members can give back right in their own backyards. It's a vital, high-impact role that delivers hope to our local healthcare system.



Visit nccbb.org, email: jow@nccbb.org or call 707-443-8004 to learn more about becoming a volunteer.

Interested in hosting a blood drive?

We're looking for local businesses or organizations to host upcoming blood drives. With both in-house and mobile options available, our Donor Recruiters makes hosting simple. Reach out to us today and let's bring your team together to make a real impact in our community.

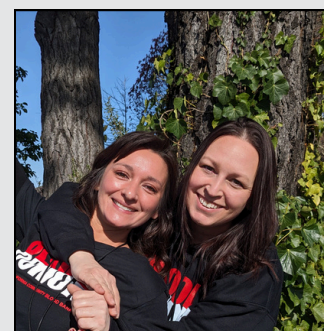
In-House Blood Drive

We host sponsored in-house blood drives every Wednesday at our blood center on Harrison Ave in Eureka. We stay open until 7:00pm and provide a light dinner for everyone! Together, we can turn your sponsorship into a powerful community effort and save lives.

Mobile Blood Drive

Bringing a bloodmobile to you makes saving lives simple and convenient for everyone. Sponsoring a mobile blood drive is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. Set the date
2. Choose the location
3. Promote the drive: Share posters, email staff, and get people excited to save lives!



Donors Reaching New Heights in July

Celebrating Community Members Reaching Blood Donation Milestones

3 Gallons	Bryce Hawley-Jones	Alan Richmond	Mike Dellabalma	58 Gallons
Daniel Bixler	Vanessa Vachon	10 Gallons	Julie Rausch	Steven Block
Sue Greene	Moctezuma Merezko	Vernon Brown	Joseph Botkin	61 Gallons
Vernon Rosenberg	Bradley Nelson	Kelsie Sobol	17 Gallons	Gene Joyce
Nathan Mason	6 Gallons	11 Gallons	Larry Lanferman	117 Gallons
Paul Hailey	Yvonne McCurley	Marc Chaton	20 Gallons	Leroy Murrell
Kelsey Dunn	7 Gallons	12 Gallons	Stanley Hino MD	
Sarah Smith	Catherine McIntosh	Jim Yarnall	22 Gallons	
Leslie Nicholson	Keith DeMello	Kurt McCanless	Craig Newman	
Amy Bohner	Roxanne Haatvedt	14 Gallons	25 Gallons	
Joyce Sheesley	8 Gallons	Joshua Cook	Byrd Lochtie	
Paul Gregson	Richard Kieselhorst	15 Gallons	26 Gallons	
Thomas Swisher	Karen Miller	Dennis Kelley	Charlie Caldwell II	
4 Gallons	Robert Bates	Jay Bell	42 Gallons	
Jacob McMahan	9 Gallons	16 Gallons	Carole Beaton	

Congratulations to our blood bank team member, **Bradley Nelson, R.N.**, who has recently reached new heights!

June Blood Drive Sponsors

Partnering with incredible local businesses and organizations make it possible for us to be out and about in the community, reaching more donors and giving everyone in Humboldt and Del Norte the opportunity to donate and make a difference.

6 Rivers Brewery	Ferndale Fire Department	Rio Dell Community
Caltrans – Eureka	Fortuna Community Health Center	Safeway – Arcata
College of the Redwoods	Humboldt County Office of Education	Safeway – Crescent City
Community First Credit Union – Garberville	Loleta Community	Seventh Day Adventist Church Camp – Redcrest
Compass Credit Union – Arcata	North Coast Co-op – Arcata	Shop Smart – Redway
Compass Credit Union – Eureka	Pelican Bay State Prison	McKinleyville Shopping Center
Eel River Recology – Fortuna	Pierson Building Center	Trinidad Community
El Buen Gusto Market- Fortuna	Rays Food Place – Fortuna	Walmart – Crescent City
Eureka Natural Foods – McKinleyville		Wildberries Market Place

Everyday Heroes: Kein's Story

Heroes don't always wear capes, sometimes they're just on their lunch break. When our bloodmobile hit a slow spot recently, our recruiters decided to hit the pavement and pop into businesses nearby. When they walked into Firestone, Kein and his coworkers gave them a warm welcome. Kein was just about to clock out for his 30-minute lunch break. He had every reason to sit back, grab a bite, and recharge. Instead, he walked right across the street and donated. He took time that was strictly his own and gave it to a stranger who needed it far more. Moments like Kein's are what keep our community going. Every donation truly does matter, each and every one of our donors is choosing to be the that 3% of the population that does donate and without that small 3% of you, there would be no hope, no tomorrow, no future for those 1 in 7 patients entering the hospital that need blood. Thank you, Kein, and big thanks to the team at Firestone for giving him a few extra minutes on his lunch break to save a life! Be an everyday hero- Go to nccbb.org to view our mobile schedule and donate today!

