

Northern California Community Blood Bank

This is Talia Ciarabellini from the Northern California Community Blood Bank with a community comment.

Have you ever wondered where your blood goes after you donate on a blood mobile? Do you have a family member or friend who has received a blood transfusion? Maybe you're just plain interested in learning more about what your local blood bank does. Whether you are a donor, teacher, student or community member we have the perfect educational opportunity for you.

As a local non-profit the blood bank participates in many different educational opportunities with the community. Attending Health fairs is a way that we work to educate the public about the blood bank. You can often find us at the local health fairs answering questions and explaining why we need you to give.

That's not all, we are happy to offer tours for you or your group. Tours can be tailored to your specific personal interests or your classes' current curriculum. We will also support your tour experience with educational materials that are available for classroom use before or after your tour.

We try to support local schools by welcoming students of all ages. We have had Eureka High School Health Path students shadow our donor and laboratory staff to better understand some of the different careers in the medical field. We have also hosted an array of college and graduate students including an intern studying with HSU's California Institutes of Regenerative Medicine program. Recently we began working with college of the redwoods phlebotomy students doing finger sticks for their state certification. We are now one of the primary clinical training sites for their program.

You may be asking yourself what a tour includes. The tours start at our registration desk and move through the screening process, blood donations in our donor room, laboratory processing of the blood, blood storage and shipment. Not only that but we will tell you about apheresis a state of the technology in blood donation. Apheresis gives us the ability to target specific blood products from donors to maximize their donation potential. This allows us to provide the hospitals with the products they need the most.

You may not be surprised that many people have reservations about blood donation because of the unknown, worries about passing out and fear of needles. You may have thought about blood donation but never taken the steps to do it. I am here to tell you that as far as blood donations are concerned knowledge is power and in our case it can save a life. We invite you to call today and make an appointment for your tour. Come in and see what we are all about. Our friendly trained staff will answer any questions you may have and calm your fears as well.

For more information or to schedule your tour please contact us at 443-8004. You can also follow us on facebook or twitter for blood bank news and upcoming events.

This has been Talia Ciarabellini from the Northern California Community Blood Bank with a community comment on KINS.