

## Red Cross urges blood donations as Hurricane Sandy forces blood drive cancellations

Written by Ben Corey

Tuesday, 30 October 2012 13:00

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Hurricane Sandy continues to bear down on the East Coast of the United States and has now forced the cancellation of approximately 300 Red Cross blood drives resulting in a shortfall of nearly 9,000 units of blood and platelets. That number is expected to grow as Sandy is causing power outages and flooding in many areas along the East Coast.

The Red Cross shipped blood products into the affected areas ahead of the storm and now urges eligible donors in unaffected areas, like ours, to roll up their sleeves and give blood to replenish supplies. Just as Red Cross disaster workers from across the country have mobilized to help, blood donated through the Red Cross can help patients locally as well as patients in areas affected by Sandy.

Attached is a news release with more information about the need for blood and platelets as well as how people can make a donation to support American Red Cross Disaster Relief by visiting [redcross.org](http://redcross.org), calling 1-800-RED-CROSS, or text the word REDCROSS to 90999 to make a \$10 donation.

Please let me know if you have any questions, would like to schedule an interview, or need additional information.

Thank you,

Ben Corey  
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### Upcoming Blood Drives

#### Carroll County

Oct. 31 from 8:30 am- 2:30 pm, West Carroll High School, 500 Cragmoor Drive in Savanna, Ill.

Nov. 15 from 1-6 p.m. at Milledgeville First Brethren Church, 521 N. Main Ave. in Milledgeville, Ill.

#### Clinton County

Nov. 8 from 12-6 p.m. at Prince of Peace Catholic Academy, 312 S. Fourth St. in Clinton, Iowa

The need is constant. The gratification is instant. Give blood.™

#### Henry County

Nov. 1 from 12-6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church South Campus Building, 302 N. State St. in Geneseo, Ill.

Nov. 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Woodhull Alwood High School, 301 E. Fifth in Woodhull, Ill.

Nov. 8 from 2-6 p.m. at St. John's Vianney Church, 313 S. West St. in Cambridge, Ill.

Nov. 14 from 2-6 p.m. at First Christian Church, 105 Dwight St. in Kewanee, Ill.

#### Mercer County

Nov. 9 from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Sherrard High School, 4701 176th in Sherrard, Ill.

#### Whiteside County

Oct. 30 from 10 am- 2 pm, Halo Branded Solutions, 1980 Industrial Drive in Sterling, Ill.

Oct. 31 from 2 pm- 6 pm, Rock Falls Blood Donation Center, 112 W. Second St. in Rock Falls

Nov. 2 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Fulton High School, 1207 12th St. in Fulton, Ill.

Nov. 3 from 6:30-11:30 a.m. at CGH Medical Center, 100 E. LeFevre Road in Sterling, Ill.

Nov. 6 from 8-11 a.m. at River Bend Senior Center, 912 Fourth St. in Fulton, Ill.

Nov. 7 from 2-6 p.m. at Rock Falls Blood Donation Center, 112 W. Second St. in Rock Falls, Ill.

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Nov. 8 from 3-8 p.m. at Tampico United Methodist Church, 202 Lincoln Ave. in Tampico, Ill.

Nov. 12 from 1-6 p.m. at Prophetstown-Lyndon-Tampico CUSD No. 3, 79 Grove St. in Prophetstown, Ill.

Nov. 13 from 1-5:15 p.m. at River Bend Senior Center, 912 Fourth St. in Fulton, Ill.

Nov. 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Rock Falls Blood Donation Center, 112 W. Second St. in Rock Falls, Ill.

### How to Help

The Red Cross has mobilized disaster volunteers and is providing safe shelter from Hurricane Sandy to thousands of people in the storm's path. The Red Cross is working closely with federal, state and local government officials, as well as community partners to coordinate response efforts.

To help people affected by disasters like this, as well as countless crises at home and around the world, make a donation to support American Red Cross Disaster Relief. Your gift enables the Red Cross to prepare for and provide shelter, food, emotional support and other assistance in response to disasters. Visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org), call 1-800-RED-CROSS, or text the word REDCROSS to 90999 to make a \$10 donation. Contributions may also be sent to a local American Red Cross chapter or to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 37243, Washington, DC 20013.

### Red Cross Apps

The need is constant. The gratification is instant. Give blood.™

The free Red Cross Hurricane App for mobile devices provides real-time hurricane safety information such as weather alerts and where Red Cross shelters are located. The app also features a toolkit with a flashlight, strobe light and alarm, and the one-touch "I'm Safe" button lets someone use social media outlets to tell family and friends they are okay. The Hurricane App is available in Spanish. Users just need to make sure the language setting on their smart phone is set to Spanish before downloading. The First Aid app puts expert advice for everyday emergencies in someone's hand. The apps can be found in the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store for Android by searching for American Red Cross.

### About the American Red Cross

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org) or join

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our blog at <http://blog.redcross.org>.

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