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## National Preparedness Month Highlights Need for Blood Donors

*Vitalant thanking donors with T-shirt, \$10 gift card for a limited time*

**SANTA ROSA, Calif** (August 26, 2024) — It's the blood already donated that helps save lives when a disaster strikes. During National Preparedness Month in September, Vitalant urges all eligible donors to give blood and help ensure the country's blood supply is strong to meet the needs of patients.

Vitalant will be holding blood drives and seeing donors at donation centers on Wednesday, September 11, providing the community with an opportunity to honor those who lost their lives and the heroes who responded on that day in 2001.

Donors of all blood types are vital to helping patients, especially the most-transfused type O. In an emergency, O-negative is what doctors reach for when there's no time to determine a patient's blood type, and O-positive is the next best alternative.

As a special thanks to donors who answer the call, Vitalant is offering those who come to donate Aug. 30 – Sept. 4 an 80s throwback "Super Donor" T-shirt plus a \$10 gift card through its Donor Rewards program. Donors who give starting Sept. 5 will automatically be entered into the Pumpkin Spice Giveaway and have a chance to win one of five \$5,000 prepaid gift cards of their choice.

Most people are eligible to donate, and about an hour is all it takes to help save lives. Review eligibility requirements and make an appointment to give: visit [vitalant.org](https://vitalant.org), download and use the [Vitalant blood donor app](#) or call **877-25-VITAL** (877-258-4825).

### Select Upcoming Sonoma, Lake, and Mendocino County Blood Drives

Tuesday, September 3 – Cloverdale, Papa's Pizza, 2:00 PM – 5:30 PM

Thursday, September 5 – Ukiah Valley Medical Center, 11:00 AM – 2:45 PM

Tuesday, September 10 – Petaluma Elk's Lodge, 10:00 AM – 3:15 PM

Tuesday, September 17 – Sonoma, Sonoma Valley Community Church, 11:30 AM – 3:45 PM

Wednesday, September 18 – Cotati, Sonoma State University, 10:00 AM – 1:45 PM

Wednesday, September 25 – Lakeport, United Christian Parish, 11:00 AM – 2:30 PM

Thursday, September 26 – Ukiah Valley Conference Center, 10:30 AM – 2:00 PM

Donors can also give at the Santa Rosa donation center at 3505 Industrial Drive.

### About Vitalant

*Vitalant (Vye-TAL-ent)) is one of the nation's largest nonprofit blood and biotherapies healthcare organizations, providing hospitals and patients across the U.S. a safe blood supply, specialized laboratory services, transfusion medicine expertise and world-renowned research. Individuals generously donating blood, volunteering and giving financially are essential to our lifesaving mission. Learn more at [vitalant.org](https://vitalant.org).*

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