



## County of Fresno

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

September 8, 2020

Esteemed community partner,

We hope this finds you, your family, and friends in good health. We are writing to make a special request for help on behalf of our community. As we continue to navigate the uncertainty and social disruption related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the wildfires ongoing in our county, one thing remains constant: the need for blood. For over sixty years the Central California Blood Center (CCBC) has relied on people like you to ensure that the Central Valley's blood supply is safe and sufficient. The Fresno County Department of Public Health (FCDPH) urges community partners and agencies to help host and coordinate the CCBC for a blood collection event as soon as possible.

We realize that agencies have questions about whether it is good time to have a blood drive. We can assure you that health and safety are paramount considerations for the leadership and staff from the CCBC. The CCBC prepares carefully and conducts all their blood collection events with abundance of spacing, screening of people entering, and universal masking to ensure everyone's safety. Now is the time when your support for blood donation matters most. Our local blood supplies are dangerously low, and this puts our hospital patients in danger of not having blood when it is needed most.

We hope now, more than ever, that our community can come together to help save lives. We each have a role to play and your help with blood donations, blood drives, and messaging support are urgently needed to ensure an adequate blood supply for Central Valley patients. When you donate blood, you never know whose life you may be saving. It is so true what they say at the CCBC, that "Valley People Need Valley Blood." Thank you for all you do on behalf of your community every day and during times of crisis like the present, and please consider helping us with this critical need for the health needs of Fresno County.

Sincerely,

Rais Vohra, M.D.  
Fresno County Interim Health Officer

David Pomaville  
Director

***Promotion, preservation and protection of the community's health***

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