



# ABC NEWSLETTER

CURRENT EVENTS AND TRENDS IN BLOOD SERVICES

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2022 #43

December 9, 2022

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## FDA Finalizes Malaria Guidance

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has published a final guidance for industry titled “[Recommendations to Reduce the Risk of Transfusion-Transmitted Malaria](#).” In the guidance for immediate implementation, the agency states that “[t]he recommendations, which are unchanged from the April 2020 guidance, will remain in effect outside of the context of the public health emergency related to COVID-19. Although the April 2020 guidance stated that we intended to reissue the guidance within 60 days following the termination of the public health emergency, we are not delaying this issuance because the guidance represents our current thinking on the topic.”

As the top priority of the [2022 ABC Advocacy Agenda](#), America’s Blood Centers (ABC) strongly advocated on behalf of member blood centers for the agency to finalize this guidance. Encouraging FDA not to wait until the stated 60 days following the termination of the public health emergency since the agency based the recommendations in the guidance on “[FDA’s] evaluation of the available scientific and epidemiological data on malaria risk, and data on FDA-approved pathogen reduction devices.”

(Source: FDA [Guidance](#), 12/7/22) 💧

## Blood Community Seeks Presidential Proclamation for NBDM

America’s Blood Centers (ABC), the Association for the Advancement of Blood & Biotherapies (AABB), and the American Red Cross have asked the Administration to issue a presidential proclamation in support of National Blood Donor Month and to illuminate the White House in the color red to raise awareness of the importance of blood donation. In the [letter](#) to the Administration, the organizations state that “[o]nly three percent of Americans donate each year and the COVID-19 pandemic has further strained our efforts...[It has been] nearly 50 years since the last such presidential proclamation. A renewed call from the highest level would be a valuable educational tool to Americans about why donating blood is an important act of public service that will help their communities and our nation. Such a proclamation would help America’s blood donation community at a critical time. It is expected that most centers will have just one- or two-days’ worth of blood available during the month of January, a time of critical need. We are submitting suggested proclamation language for your review. We also ask that the White House be illuminated in red during January to call attention to the tremendous need for blood donations. On multiple occasions, the illuminating of the Executive Mansion in colors meaningful to events and commemorations has garnered significant attention. In the

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### Presidential Proclamation for NBDM (continued from page 1)

ongoing effort to encourage blood donations, we believe the lighting of the White House in red will motivate people to learn more and commit to donating blood.” The blood community concludes the letter by thanking the Administration for its consideration and for everything it has done in support of blood donation.

(Source: Blood Community [Letter](#), 12/7/22) 💧

### **Blood Community Joint Statement to BPAC Supporting FDA Research Programs**

America’s Blood Centers (ABC), the Association for the Advancement of Blood & Biotherapies (AABB), and the American Red Cross submitted a joint [statement](#) this week to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA) Blood Products Advisory Committee ahead of its December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. The statement expressed the organizations’ support for “the research programs conducted by two laboratories within CBER/OBRR’s Division of Emerging and Transfusion Transmitted Diseases (DETTD); the Laboratory of Emerging Pathogens, and the Laboratory of Molecular Virology. The unprecedented level of blood safety we currently enjoy is a direct result of the robust research of these expert career scientists and programs. Additionally, the important work of these researchers supports the safety of other biological products regulated by CBER.”

The statement also highlighted the importance of recruiting and retaining researchers. “[I]t is vital to attract and retain career research scientists with critical scientific expertise within the FDA, and adequately fund the agency’s research to facilitate the assessment of interventions that ensure the continued safety of the blood supply and support effective, efficient regulatory review of lifesaving blood and biological products.”

(Source: Blood Community BPAC [Joint Statement](#), 12/8/22) 💧



## RESEARCH IN BRIEF

**Effect of Washed RBCs on Immune Responses in Neonates.** The aim of a [study](#) published in *Clinical and Translational Immunology* “was to investigate whether transfusion with washed compared to unwashed leucodepleted packed red blood cells (PRBCs) in extremely preterm infants results in an amelioration of the pro-inflammatory cytokine and endothelial activation responses following transfusion.” The researchers explained that “[t]his multicent[er], double-blinded, randomized clinical trial was conducted in two level III neonatal intensive care units...Infants with < 29 weeks’ gestation were [included]...The primary outcome was the change from pre- to posttransfusion plasma cytokine concentrations in the recipient...Secondary outcomes included the pre- to post-transfusion change from baseline in plasma markers of endothelial activation.” The authors noted that “[b]lood samples were collected immediately prior to and 4–6 hours following transfusion...[W]ith reports of immunomodulation following exposure to 3–4 PRBC transfusions, a decision was made to determine the effect of washed compared with unwashed PRBC transfusion on the first three transfusions...By the third transfusion, significant post-transfusion reductions were seen for IL-17A (P = 0.013), TNF (P = 0.048), IL-6 (P = 0.001), IL-8 (P = 0.037), IL-12 (P = 0.001) and IFN-c (P = 0.001) in the washed group, with IL-17A (P = 0.04) and TNF (P = 0.007) increased in the unwashed group...For newborns transfused with washed PRBCs, the pre- to posttransfusion reduction in IL-12 (P = 0.001), IL-17A (P = 0.01) and TNF (P = 0.03) became progressively greater between the first and third transfusion exposures.” The study found “[n]o changes [for] any of the measures of endothelial activation following the first transfusion in either group...At the third transfusion, there was an increase in MIF (P = 0.005) and PAI1 (P = 0.05) in those transfused with unwashed PRBCs...In the current study, repeated transfusion exposures to washed leucodepleted PRBCs elicited a decrease in plasma proinflammatory cytokines and chemokines, an effect not seen in newborns transfused with standard unwashed leucodepleted PRBCs.” If transfusion-related immune modulation underlies the association between transfusion exposure and neonatal morbidity and mortality, transfusion with washed PRBCs could reduce its impact, ultimately contributing to improved clinical outcomes.

**Citation:** Crawford, T.M., Andersen, C.C., Hodyl, N.A., Robertson, S.A. and Stark, M.J. [Effect of washed versus unwashed red blood cells on transfusion-related immune responses in preterm newborns.](#) *Clin Transl Immunol*, 2022.

Contributed by Richard Gammon, MD, Medical Director at OneBlood 💧

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ABC advocates for and advances policies that promote the role of independent blood centers in providing life-saving blood products and recognize the continuous need for a safe and robust blood supply. ABC exists to advocate for laws and regulations recognizing the essential role that independent blood centers play in the health care system; promote partnerships, policies and programs that increase awareness about the need for blood donation; and serve as a thought-leader in the advancement of evidence-based medical and scientific solutions related to health and safety.

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## INSIDE ABC

*The programs and services described in the Inside ABC section are available to ABC member blood centers and their staff only, unless otherwise specified.*

### Television & Radio Versions of “Career in Blood” Recruitment Video Available

Television and radio versions of the “Career in Blood” recruitment video are now [available](#) to members in the form of 30 and 60 second ads for both mediums. Last month, America’s Blood Centers (ABC) announced the development of the “[Career in Blood](#)” recruitment video to assist member blood centers in attracting a diverse pool of jobseekers in the face of workplace shortages impacting industries across the country. This member-exclusive customizable resource is available in both English and Spanish with male and female narration and can be used on websites and social media channels. Whether jobseekers are hoping to transfer their existing skills or are looking for an entry level position with on-the-job training, an opportunity is available at a community blood center. The video highlights how the blood center team includes phlebotomists, communications and marketing staff, laboratory professionals, and more, all focused on a single mission: the lifesaving power of blood donation. ABC continues to seek ideas for similar videos that would assist blood centers in their hiring. Please contact ABC Director of Strategic Communications and National Partnerships [Jeff Gohringer](#) with questions or concepts that would help you attract and retain staff.

(Source: ABC Announcement, 12/9/22) 💧

### WORD IN WASHINGTON



A [report](#) from *Bloomberg* states that **Hugh Auchincloss, MD will be named acting director of the National Health Institute’s (NIH) National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) upon the retirement of Anthony Fauci, MD.** He currently serves as the NIAID Principal Deputy Director and according to his NIAID [bio](#), he provides “leadership for all NIAID research planning and implementation activities, including helping to prepare and support a strategic vision for NIAID. [Additionally,] he oversees an extensive portfolio of basic, clinical, and applied research, as well as product development for biodefense, HIV/AIDS, infectious diseases, and immune-mediated disorders.” He joined the organization in 2006. Dr. Auchincloss “earned bachelor’s degrees in political science and economics and a master’s degree in economics from Yale University. He received his medical degree from Harvard Medical School in 1976. Prior to his 2006 appointment at

NIAID, Dr. Auchincloss was a transplant surgeon and professor of surgery at Harvard Medical School. For more than 17 years he operated a laboratory in transplantation immunology at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. In 1998, he founded the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Center for Islet Transplantation and served as its director until 2003. He subsequently served as Chief Operating Officer of the NIAID Immune Tolerance Network.”

(Sources: *Bloomberg*, [Fauci’s longtime #2 tapped to head infectious disease center](#), 12/9/22; NIAID Hugh Auchincloss [Bio](#), 5/9/18)

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WORD IN WASHINGTON (continued from page 4)

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra, JD recently [stated](#) that the mpox public health emergency would not be renewed after expiring on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.**

In the statement released from the agency, Secretary Becerra said “[f]rom the outset of the mpox outbreak, the Administration pulled every lever to stop the spread of this virus. In August, the Department of Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency that further strengthened and accelerated the response to produce results. Given the low number of cases today, HHS does not expect that it needs to renew the emergency declaration when it ends on January 31, 2023. But we won’t take our foot off the gas — we will continue to monitor the case trends closely and encourage all at-risk individuals to get a free vaccine. As we move into the next phase of this effort, the Biden-Harris Administration continues working closely with jurisdictions and partners to monitor trends, especially in communities that have been disproportionately affected.”

(Source: HHS [Statement](#), 12/2/22) ♦

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES UPDATE

### MALARIA

Researchers in *The New England Journal of Medicine* have [published](#) data regarding their findings from a phase II trial testing the safety and efficacy of a monoclonal antibody therapy to protect against malaria. According to a [news release](#) from the National Institutes of Health’s (NIH) National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), who sponsored and funded the trial, “one dose of an antibody drug safely protected healthy, non-pregnant adults from malaria infection during an intense six-month malaria season in Mali, Africa, [the] clinical trial has found. The antibody was up to 88.2 percent effective at preventing infection over a 24-week period, demonstrating for the first time that a monoclonal antibody can prevent malaria infection in an endemic region.” The phase II trial included a “one-time, intravenous infusion of [the] monoclonal antibody. This antibody was previously shown to neutralize the sporozoites of *P. falciparum* in the skin and blood before they could infect liver cells. Researchers led by Robert A. Seder, MD, isolated a naturally occurring form of this antibody from the blood of a volunteer who had received an investigational malaria vaccine, and then modified the antibody to extend the length of time it would remain in the bloodstream...The study team for the phase II trial enrolled 369 healthy, non-pregnant adults aged 18 to 55 years in the rural communities of Kalifabougou and Torodo in Mali, where intense *P. falciparum* transmission typically occurs from July through December each year.”

**Citation:** Kayentao, K., Ongoiba, A., Preston, A., *et al.* “[Safety and Efficacy on a Monoclonal Antibody against Malaria in Mali](#).” *The New England Journal of Medicine*. 2022. ♦

## MEMBER NEWS

**Community Blood Center** (Dayton, Ohio) and Community Tissue Services [announced](#) this week that the organization “distributed” one million tissue grafts in 2022. According to a news release, this is a “historic milestone” and the “highest number in a single year” for the organization. Community Blood Center and Community Tissue Services Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dr. David Smith added in the news release, “we save and enhance lives locally, domestically, and internationally. I can only see that this will continue long into the future.”

(Source: Community Blood Center and Community Tissue Services [News Release](#), 12/7/22)

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## MEMBER NEWS (continued from page 5)

**San Diego Blood Bank** has [partnered](#) with the County of San Diego in creating a new partnership program “in support of the Live Well San Diego vision” and protecting the region’s blood supply from shortages, according to a news release from the blood bank. The Community Guardians Program is “aimed at bringing local businesses and organizations together...regardless of size, [providing them with the] opportunity to be “guardians” of [the] local blood supply by hosting blood drives, making financial donations, and/or amplifying messaging to their audiences and digital networks. A pilot of the program involving a number of Live Well San Diego partners was executed earlier this year. Learnings from the pilot program helped create what is now a full-fledged community outreach program.” San Diego Blood Bank CEO Doug Morton added in the news release, “[c]ommunity Guardians make a collective impact, helping us to reach a more diverse population. Guardians don’t just help when there is an emergency or when supply is low, they generate donations throughout the year so we can keep our shelves stocked and avoid local shortages.”

(Source: San Diego Blood Bank [News Release](#), 12/6/22)

**LifeServe Blood Center** is [celebrating](#) its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. According to a blood center news release, “our Des Moines area hospitals formed the Polk County Blood Donor Service with Des Moines grocer and blood donor recruitment philanthropist, Ike Smalls, as director” in November 1947. “I can’t image that 75 years ago, when the Des Moines Hospital Council was taking action in 1947 to establish this organization, that they could imagine what the organization would become today,” said Stacy Sime, president and CEO of LifeServe in the news release. The blood center will continue to celebrate “throughout the course of [its] anniversary year.”

(Source: LifeServe Blood Center [News Release](#), 11/29/22) 💧

## **GLOBAL NEWS**

**A New Zealand court case has [received](#) global attention after parents of a 4-month old in need of blood transfusions declined them unless the “the blood came from donors who were unvaccinated against COVID-19,” according to the *Associated Press*.** The court “temporarily took away medical custody of a baby from [the] parents [and] place[d] the 4-month-old into the guardianship of [health] authorities until after [the baby] undergoes an urgently needed heart operation and recovers. The parents remain in charge of decisions about their [child] that don’t relate to the operation...[They] said they had unvaccinated donors willing to give blood for their son’s operation, but health authorities argued that such directed donations should only occur in exceptional circumstances, such as for recipients with very rare blood types.”

(Source: *Associated Press*, [New Zealand court rules against anti-vax parents of ill baby](#), 12/7/22)

**Takeda [announced](#) the European Commission (EC) has “granted marketing authorization” for its dengue vaccine.** QDENGGA® is now approved for use in the European Union (EU) for individuals aged 4 and older “regardless of previous dengue exposure.” According to the company news release, “[a]pproval from the EC was supported by results across 19 Phase I, II and, III trials with more than 28,000 children and adults, including four and a half years of follow-up data from the global, pivotal Phase III Tetravalent Immunization against Dengue Efficacy Study (TIDES) trial. The TIDES trial met its primary endpoint of overall vaccine efficacy (VE) by preventing 80.2 percent of symptomatic dengue cases 12 months after vaccination. In addition, the vaccine met its key secondary endpoint by preventing 90.4 percent of hospitalizations 18 months after vaccination. Efficacy varied by serotype (DENV-1 – 4). The TIDES exploratory analyses showed that throughout the four and a half-year study follow-up, [the vaccine] prevented 84

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## GLOBAL NEWS (continued from page 6)

percent of hospitalized dengue cases and 61 percent of symptomatic dengue cases in the overall population, including both seropositive and seronegative individuals. [It] has been generally well tolerated, with no evidence of disease enhancement in vaccine recipients, and no important safety risks have been identified, to date. QDENGGA® is also approved in Indonesia for the prevention of dengue disease by any serotype in individuals six years to 45 years of age.” Takeda also added in the news release, that it “continues to progress regulatory filings in other dengue-endemic countries in Asia and Latin America.”

(Source: Takeda [News Release](#), 12/8/22)

**As part of the ongoing [partnership](#) between NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT), the national blood provider for England and transplant services for the United Kingdom (UK), and Marvel Studios, a [video](#) featuring “Black Panther: Wakanda Forever” star Danai Gurira, who plays Okoye in the film, encouraging blood donation among individuals of Black heritage has been released.** “The NHS urgently needs more blood donors of Black heritage so they can treat people who need regular blood transfusions” said Ms. Gurira according to the NHSBT news release. “You could help save up to three lives by giving blood. All it takes is just one hour of your time. We have the power to save and transform lives through our ethnically matched blood. It’s in our blood to save lives together.” Owen Dommel, director of Marketing Partnerships in the United Kingdom and Europe, the Middle East, Africa at The Walt Disney Studios, the parent company of Marvel, added in the news release, “[i]n our film, heroes like Okoye band together to protect Wakanda. Our hope is that through this collaboration these values are translated into action to ensure the NHS receives the blood donations it so urgently needs.”

(Source: NHSBT [News Release](#), 11/28/22) 💧

## **COMPANY NEWS**

**Editas Medicine** shared positive [results](#) this week from an ongoing trial of its investigational cell therapy to treat sickle cell disease. According to a company news release, the reported clinical data “includes safety data from the first two patients and efficacy data from the first patient treated. Both treated patients demonstrated successful neutrophil and platelet engraftment. Patient-one achieved neutrophil engraftment at 23 days after infusion and platelet engraftment at 19 days after infusion. Patient-two achieved neutrophil engraftment 29 days after infusion and platelet engraftment 37 days after infusion. Additionally, neither patient has experienced any vaso-occlusive events since treatment with [the investigational cell therapy], at five and 1.5 months follow up, respectively. At five months post-treatment, the first patient treated with [the investigational cell therapy] ha[d] a total hemoglobin of 16.4 g/dL, a fetal hemoglobin (or HbF) of 45.4 percent, and a mean corpuscular HbF of 13.8 pg/red blood cell, exceeding the 10.0 pg/red blood cell threshold to suppress red blood cell sickling. Additionally, HbF increase in the first patient was highly pancellular, with F cells steadily increasing to reach greater than 95 percent of red blood cells.” The investigational cell therapy was also “well-tolerated in the two patients” and “[n]o serious adverse events occurred, and no adverse events reported were related to treatment.”

(Source: Editas Medicine, [News Release](#), 12/6/22)

**Valneva SE** [announced](#) “positive antibody persistence data twelve months after vaccination with a single dose of its [investigational] chikungunya vaccine candidate.” The latest results come from an “antibody persistence trial [that] enrolled 363 healthy adult participants and followed them from month six after vaccination to month 12, as 99 percent of participants retained neutralizing antibody titers above the seroresponse threshold of 150 [at] 12 months after the single-dose vaccination. These antibody levels confirm the antibody persistence profile observed in an earlier study. The antibody persistence was similar in

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COMPANY NEWS (continued from page 7)

older adults aged  $\geq 65$  years, who retained neutralizing antibody titers comparable to younger adults throughout the follow-up. These results follow completion of [an earlier study], for which a seroresponse rate of 96 percent six months after vaccination was reported. The study will continue to monitor antibody persistence on an annual basis. No safety concerns were identified for the duration of the follow-up study, confirming the safety profile observed in previous studies.” Valneva SE anticipates finalizing a biologics license application submission to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) this year.

(Source: Valneva SE, [News Release](#), 12/5/22)

**Emergent BioSolutions Inc.** recently [received](#) a research award from the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) “to evaluate [the] efficacy “ of its single-dose chikungunya virus vaccine candidate. According to a company news release, Emergent will work in “collaboration with the Armed Forces Institute of Medical Sciences (AFRIMS) and academic partners, to enable a post-approval field efficacy study in areas with active chikungunya virus (CHIKV) transmission...[The] multicenter Phase 3b clinical study, will evaluate the vaccine candidate’s efficacy in preventing CHIKV disease and assess the utility of a model-guided disease surveillance framework to optimize execution of a field efficacy trial using CHIKV as a model emerging pathogen.”

(Source: Emergent BioSolutions Inc., [News Release](#), 11/14/22) 💧

## CALENDAR

***Note to subscribers:** Submissions for a free listing in this calendar (published weekly) are welcome. Send information to [newsletter@americasblood.org](mailto:newsletter@americasblood.org). (For a more detailed announcement in the weekly “Meetings” section of the newsletter, please include program information.)*

### 2023

Mar. 6-8. **ABC Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.** [Registration](#) is open. Additional information is available [here](#).

April. 24-28. **ABC Blood Advocacy Week.** More information coming soon.

May 9-11. **2023 ADRP Conference, Charlotte, N.C.** Call for abstracts, hotel information, and more are available [here](#).

May 10-11. **29<sup>th</sup> IPFA/ Paul-Ehrlich-Institut[e] (PEI) International Workshop on Surveillance and Screening of Blood-borne Pathogens, Bologna, Italy.** More information available [here](#).

Sept. 17-20. **American Association of Tissue Banks Annual Meeting, National Harbor, Md.** More information available [here](#).

Oct. 9-11. **Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed) The MedTech Conference, Anaheim, Calif.** More information available [here](#).

Oct. 14-17. **AABB Annual Meeting, Nashville, Tenn.** More information available [here](#). 💧

## EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE

**For Sale.** 2023 All American Blue Bird Bus: 6.7L Diesel Engine with 6 Speed Allison Transmission/Air Breaks/Air Suspension/Wheelbase: 232"/100 Gallon Fuel Tank. This bus is ready for you to convert into your blood mobile Price: \$155k. **\*\*IMMEDIATE POSSESSION\*\*** **\*\*location: ROCKFORD, IL\*\*** Please contact Gary at (815) 961-2307 or [gperry@rrvbc.org](mailto:gperry@rrvbc.org).



## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Classified advertisements, including notices of positions available and wanted, are published free of charge for a maximum of three weeks per position per calendar year for ABC institutional members. There are charges for non-members: \$139 per placement for ABC Newsletter subscribers and \$279 for non-subscribers. A six (6) percent processing fee will be applied to all credit card payments. Notices ordinarily are limited to 150 words. To place an ad, e-mail: [newsletter@americasblood.org](mailto:newsletter@americasblood.org)

## POSITIONS

**Director of Finance.** LifeSouth Community Blood Centers is seeking an experienced CPA as our Director of Finance. The Director is responsible for ensuring the stability of LifeSouth's finances through planning, directing, and controlling financial functions, including establishing appropriate control environments, preparing financial reports for management, financial analysis, overseeing development and implementation of effective financial and accounting systems. This position oversees all staff in the Accounting and Purchasing departments. Join our team and help us continue our dedication to making sure the blood is there when you or your family is in need. Visit our [careers page](#) to learn more about us and apply.

**Medical Technologist – 2<sup>nd</sup> Shift or 3<sup>rd</sup> Shift.** LifeSouth Community Blood Centers is seeking Medical Technologists to perform specialized lab testing for cellular therapies and lab testing for the quality control of cellular therapies and blood components. Additional responsibilities include performing specialized lab testing for RBC and HPA genotyping, HLA typing and HLA and HPA antibody identification, perform DNA extraction and adhere to clinical laboratory's quality control policies. The individual will have a bachelor's in Clinical Lab, Chemical or Biological Science and a current Florida Medical Technologist license. Join our team and help us continue our dedication to making sure the blood is there when you or your family is in need. Visit our [careers page](#) to learn more about us and apply.

**Compensation and Benefits Manager.** LifeSouth Community Blood Centers is seeking an experienced Compensation and Benefits Manager to join our Human Resources team at our headquarters in Gainesville, FL. This position is responsible for facilitating the organization's compensation and benefits programs as well as providing strategic leadership for its administration, including enrollment, maintenance, and compliance with regulations. Join our team and help us continue our dedication to making sure the blood is there when you or your family is in need. Visit our [careers page](#) to learn more about us and apply.

**Laboratory Technologist.** LifeSouth Community Blood Centers is seeking a skilled Laboratory Technologist in our immunohematology Reference Laboratory in Atlanta, Georgia. The position is a full-time evening shift with the option of working 4-10 hour shifts or 5-8 hour shifts per week. The candidate for this position must be able to work independently, communicate effectively and

can perform and interpret clinical laboratory tests for providing blood for a patient in need of a transfusion. This position requires extensive understanding of blood group serology, compatibility testing and selection of blood for a patient in need of a transfusion. This position requires extensive understanding of blood group serology, compatibility testing, and selection of blood for patients with complex serological problems. Visit our [careers page](#) to learn more about us and apply.

**Public Relations Manager (Oklahoma City, Okla.).** Oklahoma Blood Institute is seeking a **Public Relations Manager** to direct earned media efforts for the organization, to promote and increase lifesaving blood donation. The PR Manager, who will be reporting to the Associate Vice President of Recruitment Operations, will be responsible for strategy, execution, and evaluation of public relations campaigns, to help tell the organization's story to key audiences. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree required, five plus years' experience in public relations, media or related field, some travel required, must excel in both narrative and journalistic style with a firm knowledge of AP style, ability to showcase the organization's mission and work, and must understand media outlet habits and channel-specific needs. Salary Range: Competitive salary with excellent benefits package including health, dental, vision, and life insurance, long term disability, 401(k), paid time off, annual tuition reimbursement, generous retention bonus', and holiday pay. Please apply on our [website only](#) at <http://obi.org/careers/>

**Director of Human Resources (Shreveport, LA).** LifeShare Blood Center is seeking an experienced human resources professional as our **Director of Human Resources**. The Director serves as an advisor and strategic business partner to operational units, ensuring alignment of departmental goals and processes with operational and business objectives. Reporting to the Chief Administrative Officer, the Director will develop and administer Company-wide policies and practices to promote positive employee engagement, facilitate business operations, manage risk exposures, and lead the human resources team in areas of recruitment, onboarding, employee relations, total rewards, performance management and employee health and safety. Please join us in our important mission to connect blood donors and the lives they impact! LifeShare offers a competitive beginning salary, commensurate with experience and a generous benefits package. Visit our [Careers Page](#) to learn more and apply.

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POSITIONS (continued from page 9)

**Director of Blood Processing (Shreveport, LA).** LifeShare Blood Center is seeking an experienced **Director of Blood Processing** to provide leadership and direction to our blood component processing and distribution teams. The Director will develop and nurture relationships with healthcare facilities and direct effective strategies to manage blood product inventory levels, quality testing and distribution activities to meet hospital customer needs. Please join us in our important mission to connect blood donors and the lives they impact! LifeShare offers a competitive beginning salary, commensurate with experience and a generous benefits package. Please visit our [Careers Page](#) to learn more and apply.

**Manager of Donor Resources.** The Blood Connection is seeking a Manager of Donor Resources in Charlotte, N.C. and Greenville, SC to provide oversight to our recruitment teams within these divisions. This position directs Account Managers and Business Development Representatives to strategically manage our existing portfolio of blood donor groups and new business to reach collection targets. The Manager of Donor Resources monitors progress to goal proactively and effectively coaches and manages the team to success. The ideal candidate will have a strong background in territory management and team building. Candidates must possess excellent interpersonal, analytical, and strategic planning abilities. We offer an exceptional benefits package including a generous 401k match, 30 days PTO, company bonuses, tuition reimbursement, cell phone stipend, and yearly increases. Join one of the fastest growing blood centers in the country and help make an impact in your community today! How to apply: [Manager of Donor Resources Application](#)

**Laboratory Tech I or II -- 2nd shift (Rhode Island Blood Center).** This position is responsible for the execution of testing and quality control (QC) procedures following Standard Operating Procedures, as assigned. Testing includes routine donor testing in large batches, as well as component qualifications. This position is responsible for proper disposition of components based on test or QC results. This position also works with the Supervisor of Client Testing to ensure appropriate test menus are completed as ordered and reported. Essential Functions: High complexity testing of donor blood samples with proper technique and documentation according to the procedures of the Rhode Island Blood Center, including computer and physical quarantine. Carrying out all procedures in a reasonable time frame as determined by supervisory personnel. Labeling of blood components including proper checking and documentation according to the procedures of the Rhode Island Blood Center Laboratory. This position is a Second Shift position. Five 8-hour shifts or Four 10-hour shifts. Qualifications: MLT, BB, MT or equivalent, or SBB (ASCP) certification. Must meet requirements for Testing Personnel for a

Highly Complex Laboratory as described in the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act of 1988. Data entry skills preferred. Click [here](#) to view the full job description and apply.

**Medical & Laboratory Director – South Division.** Vitalant is currently seeking a Medical & Laboratory Director to provide oversight for the patients, donors, staff, and healthcare professionals in our South Division (TN, LA, MS, NM, TX). Routine duties include blood center activities such as component manufacturing, product management, laboratory testing, donor suitability and counseling, education, & consultation and clinical services activities such as oversight of an immunohematology reference laboratory, transfusion services, therapeutic apheresis, and cellular therapy collections (e.g., Dendreon). Additional areas of specialization, such as cell sourcing and cellular therapy/cord blood, may be assigned as needed. This position works directly with the Corporate and Division teams to promote Vitalant's mission, vision, quality policy, and strategic initiatives to position Vitalant as a Center of Transfusion Medicine Excellence. Modeling high ethical, customer care, and confidentiality standards always, this person serves a vital role for assuring compliance with current policies, programs, and directives and providing medical support for the Blood Services Division and Vitalant Clinical Services. This role can work remotely anywhere within the South Division (TN, LA, MS, NM, TX) with 20 percent travel to visit internal and external partners but preference is given to candidates located in either LA or TN. How to apply: <https://bloodsystems.taleo.net/careersection/jobdetail.ftl?job=222681&lang=en>

**Donor Services Operations Director (Oklahoma Blood Institute - Enid, Oklahoma).** To provide leadership and direction over all aspects of mobile operation activities. To ensure that processes are in place to reach optimal department efficiency by meeting successful product collection, financial, quality, compliance, and customer service goals. All tasks undertaken, regardless of their timing, that have clear applicability to blood banking and transfusion medicine are considered within this position's scope of employment and are, therefore, subject to the Institute's Intellectual Property Policy and Procedures. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in management or medical field preferred, minimum of five years' leadership/management experience, blood bank focus preferred and valid driver's license. Salary: Competitive salary based on education and/or experience and \$500 bonus after 6 months and \$1,000 bonus after 1 year! Benefits: Health, dental, vision, life insurance, long term disability, 401(k), paid-time off, \$5,000 annual tuition reimbursement, holiday pay, etc. How to apply: <http://obi.org/careers/>

(continued on page 11)

**POSITIONS** (continued from page 10)

**Divisional Director.** The Blood Connection is seeking a Divisional Director to provide oversight of our day-to-day operations in Charlotte, NC. This position provides direction for the division and ensures that directed departments meet divisional objectives. The Divisional Director will help provide support to executive management for the evaluation, planning, and execution of expansion into new territories. The ideal candidate will be a self-starter with a minimum of five years of progressive management experience. Candidates must possess excellent interpersonal, analytical, and strategic planning abilities. We offer an exceptional benefits package including a generous 401k match, 30 days PTO, company bonuses, tuition reimbursement, cell phone stipend, and yearly increases. Join one of the fastest growing blood centers in the country and help make an impact in your community today! How to apply: [Divisional Director Application](#). 💧