

Blood drives scheduled next month

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A local business, hospital and church will host Carter BloodCare's mobile bus this weekend to help bolster the regional blood bank's supplies.

Title Max will be hosting a blood drive from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 1, on the Carter BloodCare bus in the parking lot at 1065 Gilmer St. For more information about this drive, contact event coordinator Izac Herrera at 903-885-2058 or tm-sulphursprings-tx1@titlemax.com.

Hopkins County Memorial Hospital will also host a blood drive from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2, in the parking lot at 115 Airport Road on the Carter BloodCare bus. For more information about this drive, contact event coordinator Tesse Loveless at 903-504-0812 or email jsdecker@carterbloodcare.org.

St. James Catholic Church is also slated to have a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 3, in the center's mobile coach in church parking lot, 297 Texas St. For more information about this drive, contact event coordinator Ann Smith at 903-439-5999 or email st.james.sulspg@verizon.net.

To schedule an appointment time for any of these three blood drives, contact Lanie Jennings at 903-571-9667.

All blood types are needed. In fact, some patients require only one part of the blood. Some patients require only red cells, while others might only need platelets. Donating just one pint of blood can save three lives and there is no substitute for human blood. One in seven patients admitted to a hospital will require a blood transfusion, Carter BloodCare Director of Public Relations Linda Goelzer noted in a press release Monday.

Potential blood donors may volunteer beginning at age 16 with parental consent; 17-year-olds may give independently; and there is no upper age limit for giving blood.

All donors must weigh at least 110 pounds, feel well on the day of donation and present a government-issued photo ID each time they give blood. It's also a good idea to eat a nutritious meal and drink plenty of water before giving blood.

Carter BloodCare is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization that operates on behalf of patients in 50-plus Texas counties. With volunteer blood donors, Carter BloodCare is the primary provider of blood and transfusion services to more than 150 hospitals and healthcare facilities in North, Central and East Texas. The blood center is licensed by the Food and Drug Administration, accredited by American Association of Blood Banks and is a member of America's Blood Centers.

For more information about hosting a drive, donor eligibility, Carter BloodCare or to schedule an appointment, call 1-800-366-2834 or visit carterbloodcare.org.