

Press Release
City of Perris

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Perris Partners as Host-Site for Blood Drive

PERRIS, Calif. (May 29, 2020) — The City of Perris partnered with the Grove Community Church and LifeStream Blood Bank to host a blood drive at the Bob Glass Gymnasium on May 28, 2020.

The event was held from 2 to 8 p.m. and encouraged appointments, but also accepted walk-ins as well. With strict adherence to local guidelines that required face coverings and social distancing, 26 appointments had been premade for Thursdays drive.



Donors began with a registration and initial screening that assessed medical history and conditions, and travel experiences. Once screened, they proceeded to a section of the gym where they could begin their donation.



A donation could take between six and 10 minutes, depending on the individual. After donation, the donors were sent to the “canteen” station where they were given light refreshments and monitored before being permitted to leave. The entire process took between 45 minutes to an hour, which is a small price to pay to help save lives.



Pastor Noland Turnage is the Outreach Pastor for the Grove Community Church and supports the city of Perris, Good Hope and Mead Valley. Turnage championed the blood drive as a way of reaching and assisting his community. As the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted Perris and its surrounding communities, Turnage considered this a way to help those in need.

“At the Grove, we want to reach areas that are in need and folks that can use a handout,” said Turnage. “Blood is needed to keep our bodies going, and as more surgeries are beginning to come back online at local hospitals, and we wanted to be apart of that. “

The City of Perris and LifeStream have partnered at previous events, such as the annual Health Fair, in mobile setups. However, with the reduced services and canceling of city events, this blood drive was a way to still supply blood to the 85 Southern California hospitals serviced by LifeStream.

“LifeStream thanks the City of Perris for its partnership at this unprecedented time,” said Don Escalante, LifeStream spokesperson. “Blood donation is always an urgent healthcare need, and especially so right now as more elective procedures are being scheduled that require blood transfusions.”

Escalante said preliminary figures from Thursday’s event showed 33 units of blood collected, which potentially could assist 75 or more patients.

LifeStream Blood Bank is a local, nonprofit, comprehensive blood bank that provides blood products and services to more than 80 Southern California hospitals. For more information and to set an appointment to “give the gift of life,” call 800-879-4484 or visit LStream.org.

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