

BloodCenter of Wisconsin to Become Provider of Organ and Tissue Procurement Services

BloodCenter of Wisconsin, Froedtert & Community Health and Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center have joined together to create a single organ and tissue procurement community service organization within BloodCenter of Wisconsin.

Bringing the Wisconsin Donor Network Organ Procurement Organization and the Wisconsin Tissue Bank under the umbrella of the BloodCenter of Wisconsin will significantly benefit the community by helping grow the number of organ and tissue donations in Wisconsin.

Previously, the Wisconsin Donor Network was housed at Froedtert and the Wisconsin Tissue Bank was located at Aurora St. Luke's. These two organizations have contributed significantly to saving and extending the lives of patients in the Milwaukee community and beyond, as well as caring for the donor families. The planned transfer date is October 1, 2009.



Leadership from Froedtert Hospital, Aurora Health Care, BloodCenter of Wisconsin, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin and representatives from the Wisconsin Donor Network Community Advisory Board evaluated the best way to continue to grow the contributions of both the Wisconsin Donor Network and Wisconsin Tissue Bank in our community. The recommendation was to bring the Wisconsin Donor Network and the Wisconsin Tissue Bank under the leadership of BloodCenter of Wisconsin.

"BloodCenter has the expertise to navigate the increasingly complex rules, regulations and standards surrounding the donation of living blood for transfusion to patients as well as tissue and organ donations for transplantation," said Jacquelyn Fredrick, BloodCenter of Wisconsin President and CEO.

The Wisconsin Donor Network is a federally designated organ procurement organization supporting the transplant community in eastern Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Donor Network serves 2.2 million people in a 12-county region, not only recovering organs for transplant but providing public and professional education about the need for organ and tissue donors.

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Volunteer News

Total number of volunteer service hours for July were 2,542.

Welcome New Volunteers

Katherine Bersch - Milwaukee
Julia Borsari - Wauwatosa
Amy Fredrick - Media Drives
Jessica Kondrakiewicz - Media Drives
Laura Lewis - Milwaukee
Melissa Moore - Greenfield
Mary Lou Schreiber - Greenfield
Joella Talsky - Greenfield
Janelle Williams - Greenfield

September Birthdays

9 / 4 Patrice Orlovsky - Milwaukee
9 / 7 George Kuhagen - Mobile and Media Drives
9 / 8 Butch Larson - Sheboygan, Mobile and Media Drives; Arlene Schmidt - La Crosse
9 / 10 Alice Miller - Milwaukee, Mobile and Media Drives
9 / 12 Hamdiah Elewa - Greenfield, Mobile and Media Drives
9 / 16 Cary Edwards - Media Drives
9 / 18 Connie Jacobi - Brown Deer
9 / 19 Jim McCarty - Milwaukee, Mobile Drives; Daphne Ursu - Racine
9 / 20 Shirley Meyer - Waukesha; Cindy Tyloch - Media Drives; Nancy Kellman - Brown Deer, Mobile and Media Drives
9 / 22 Tom Callen - Media Drives
9 / 25 Terry Switalski - Waukesha and Media Drives
9 / 26 Rita Spalholz - Greenfield
9 / 27 Mary Powers - Brown Deer
9 / 28 Sharon Maciejewski - Milwaukee, Mobile and Media Drives

Organ and Tissue Procurement Services continued

"Bringing the Wisconsin Donor Network under the expertise of the BloodCenter only strengthens their mission by being under a donation driven organization," said Charlie Runge, Senior Vice President Clinical Services, Froedtert Hospital. "The Wisconsin Donor Network received organ donations from over 90 organ donors in 2007 and again in 2008, a dramatic increase from the approximately 70 organ donors in 2005 and 2006."

The Wisconsin Tissue Bank is a non-profit program providing tissue procurement services to the state of Wisconsin and is dedicated to the education of health care professionals and the public to promote organ and tissue donation.

Susan Ela, RN, chief operating officer for Aurora Health Care, says bringing these organizations together is the right thing to do.

"The services these organizations provide are critical to the community," Ela says. "Aurora's leaders are committed to enhancing health care for the people of eastern Wisconsin. We believe these programs will thrive under this model, a model that will help even more people benefit from blood, organ and tissue donations."

In 2008, the Wisconsin Tissue Bank at Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center received tissue from 337 donors and is expected to exceed that number in 2009. The Wisconsin Tissue Bank recovers bone, skin, veins, tendons, heart valves and other tissue. These gifts help improve the lives of hundreds of people each year.

This new venture expands BloodCenter's commitment to volunteer donation of blood, bone marrow and stem cells to include organs and tissues.

The missions of BloodCenter, the Wisconsin Tissue Bank and the Wisconsin Donor Network will not change but will remain focused on growing organ and tissue donations to meet the needs of donor families, patients and the community.

"We are fortunate to have committed staff within these organizations and look forward to welcoming them to BloodCenter of Wisconsin so they can continue to serve our community by caring for the generous donations from donor families," Fredrick said.

Type O Donors Needed -- Help Spread the Word

BloodCenter of Wisconsin is in need of type O blood. If you have type O and are eligible to donate, please make an appointment to donate as soon as possible. If you're not type O but know someone who is, please encourage them to donate.

- Call 1-877-BE-A-HERO (1-877-232-4376)
- Visit www.bcw.edu
- Drop by one our of donor centers

O is the universal blood type, which means these units can be transfused to anyone, regardless of their blood type. This is especially important in emergencies, such as car accidents, when there is not time to give type-specific blood.

Thank you for helping ensure that our local hospitals have an adequate supply of this special blood type. Help us spread the word by sharing this message with others. Take a minute and send this message to your friends and family.



Waukesha Donor Center Needs Volunteers for One Day

- Why:** 5th Friday in October where no volunteers are normally scheduled
- Where:** Waukesha Donor Center, 2111 Springdale Rd., Waukesha
- When:** Friday, October 30th, 2009
- What::** We need several volunteers to take 2-4 hour shifts between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- How:** Contact Merry at 937-6454 or merry.otero@bcw.edu if you are interested

Habla Español?

If you are fluent in Spanish and would like to offer your translation services at some of our Milwaukee mobile blood drives, please contact me as soon as possible. Maria: 414-937-6364 or maria.radomski@bcw.edu. Thank you.

Volunteering Trends in Wisconsin

Volunteering in America

Wisconsin

Ranked 12th for volunteer rate

Wisconsin has an average annual volunteer rate of 33.3%, with 1.5 million volunteers serving 162.4 million per year

→ [More Volunteer trends.](#)

Corporation for
NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE

(www.volunteeringinamerica.gov)

New statistics indicate that Wisconsin has 33.3% of their residents volunteering, placing 12 out of 50 states. Statistics below were collected within the Milwaukee Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). Major cities include Milwaukee, Waukesha and West Allis. Below are some of the Milwaukee highlights based on averages from 2006 and 2008 data:

- 357,500 volunteers
- 30.5% of residents volunteer – ranking them 12th within the 51 large cities
- 32.2 hours per resident – ranking them 33rd within the 51 large cities
- 26.2% of adults volunteered in Milwaukee in 2008, contributing 31.3 million hours of service
- 11.1% volunteers provide their service in the health care field



Volunteer Eileen Figueroa with the racing sausages.

Kudos

From the Chairperson for the Donor Quad Graphics-Hartford blood drive

Donors look forward to seeing our faithful volunteer, Hal, and are grateful for the attention he gives them!

From the Chairperson for the Donor Quad Graphics-Hartford blood drive

Special thank you to volunteer, Pat, who greeted every donor with a smile as soon as they walked in the door.

From the Washington County High School Scholarship Blood Drive

"The people in blue vests are very helpful."

"Live your life while you have it.
Life is a splendid gift – there is nothing small about it."
– Florence Nightingale



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Volunteers

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