FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Date: 5 April 2018

Contacts: John Yeager | 425-765-9845 | <u>JYeager@BloodworksNW.org</u>

Early Easter and spring break vacation triggers urgent need for donors Donors urged to schedule appointment

SEATTLE, WA –The cumulative impact of an early Easter and widespread spring break vacations has triggered a special appeal to donors to help meet urgent patient needs in Northwest hospitals.

"A dip in donor collections is normal during spring break and other scheduled high school and college vacations, said James P. AuBuchon, MD, president and CEO. "But when you add in a very early Easter, it translates into more donors than usual out of town at the same time, and a sharp slowdown of people at our centers and mobile drives."

There is a special need for O blood type and platelets, but all types are welcomed. Type O is the most common type in the Northwest, accounting for 48% of the population. Type O negative blood is the universal blood type that can be transfused to any patient suffering from trauma when they are rushed to a hospital and there is no time to type their blood.

Donating blood takes less an hour, and because blood can be broken down into its three components each donation (about a pint) can potentially save three lives.

Bloodworks urges past and first time blood and platelet donors to schedule an appointment at a center or mobile drive near to where they live or work. Appointments can be made online at <u>schedule.bloodworksnw.org</u> or by calling 1-800-398-7888. More information at <u>www.bloodworksnw.org</u>

BloodworksNW Donor Centers

Appointments and information at BloodworksNW.org or 800-398-7888

- <u>Bellevue Center</u>
 1807 132nd Avenue NE
 Bellevue, WA 98005
 425-453-4011
- <u>Bellingham Center</u> 410 W Bakerview Rd., Suite 117
- <u>Olympia Center</u>
 1220 Eastside Street SE
 Olympia, WA 98501
 360-596-3950
- <u>North Seattle Center</u>
 10357 Stone Avenue N

Bellingham, WA 98226 360-671-8848

- <u>Central Seattle</u> 921 Terry Avenue Seattle, WA 98104 206-292-6500
- <u>Everett Center</u> 2703 Oakes Avenue Everett, WA 98201 425-740-2909
- Federal Way Center

 1414 S 324TH Street
 Suite B101
 Federal Way, WA 98003
 253-945-8660
- <u>Lynnwood Center</u> 19723 Highway 99, Suite F Lynnwood, WA 98036 425-412-1000

Seattle, WA 98133 206-526-1970

- <u>Silverdale Center</u>
 3230 NW Randall Way
 Silverdale, WA 98383
 360-308-7340
- <u>Tukwila Center</u>
 130 Andover Park E
 Tukwila, WA 98188
 206-241-6300
- <u>Vancouver, WA Donor Center</u>
 9320 NE Vancouver Mall Blvd, Suite100
 Vancouver, WA 98662
 360-567-4800
- Lane Blood Center 2211 Willamette St Eugene, OR 97405 541-484-9111

About BloodworksNW

Bloodworks (formerly Puget Sound Blood Center) is backed by 70 years of Northwest history and 250,000 donors. It is local, nonprofit, independent, volunteer-supported and communitybased. A recognized leader in transfusion medicine, Bloodworks serves patients in more than 90 hospitals in Washington, Oregon and Alaska — partnering closely with local hospitals to deliver the highest level of patient care. Comprehensive services include blood components, complex cross-matching, specialized lab services for organ transplants, care for patients with blood disorders, and collection of cord blood stem cells for cancer treatment. Bloodworks Research Institute performs leading-edge research in blood biology, transfusion medicine, blood storage and treatment of blood disorders. Patients with traumatic injuries, undergoing surgeries or organ transplantation, or receiving treatment for cancer and blood disorders all depend on our services, expertise, laboratories and research. For more information, visit bloodworksnw.org

###