

For Immediate Release



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Seattle Sports Teams Unite with Bloodworks Northwest to Save Lives

Seattle Seahawks, Storm, and Sounders FC Join Mariners and Bloodworks at T-Mobile Park Pop-Up Blood Drives

Seattle, WA —Seattle’s sports teams band together in solidarity to provide much needed support for their home town. Last week, Bloodworks and the Seattle Mariners announced a new partnership to host a 7-week long Pop-Up blood drive experience at T-Mobile Park to address the ongoing need for a stable blood supply amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Following suit, the Seattle Seahawks, Seattle Sounders FC, and Seattle Storm have all stepped up to the plate to provide extra assistance. Each of the teams have committed to hosting their own additional blood drive at T-Mobile Park. Inviting players, staff, friends and family for their team days, the additional drives will bring the total number to 1,600 potential donation appointments at the Pop-Up Blood Drives. Those donations would have otherwise been unavailable due to all the cancelled community drives.

“It’s great to see the community respond so enthusiastically, and to have Seattle’s sports teams join together in solidarity during this time of need to make a difference. It’s nice to give back. It’s one of the essential things we can do, and with the blood donations being critically needed, why wouldn’t we?” said Seattle Mariners President & CEO Kevin Mather.

“In our community’s great time of need, we are proud to join forces with Bloodworks Northwest and our fellow Seattle sports teams to raise awareness about the importance of giving blood right now,” said Jeff Richards, Seahawks Vice President of Marketing and Community Engagement. “For anyone who is healthy and able, donating blood is a simple way to show support for our region and keep the blood banks stocked for those who need it most.”

The Seattle Mariners hosted their own team day on Friday April 17, 2020 and had 55 staff members donate including Mariners pitcher Marco Gonzales and wife Monica. The team-hosted blood drives will be held on consecutive Fridays over the next 3 weeks, highlighting the necessity of ongoing and repeated donations from the community.

April 24th – Seattle Sounders FC Friends and Family Day

May 1st – Seattle Seahawks Staff Day

May 8th – Seattle Storm Friends and Family Day

“We’re excited to work with our neighbors at the Mariners, and our friends at Bloodworks Northwest, to provide a day for our organization to give back in a time of need,” said Sounders FC President of Business Operations Peter Tomozawa. “While isolating at home, I know many of us have felt a desire to find a way to help others and to come together, even while we’re kept apart. Giving blood is a small action we can all take, and Sounders FC is grateful to be able to contribute.”

“We are proud to join forces with the Mariners, Seahawks and Sounders to support the Bloodworks Northwest Pop-Up blood drives at T-Mobile Park. We urge our fans to take advantage of this opportunity to give blood and assist our community members in need,” said Seattle Storm CEO & General Manager Alisha Valavanis.

“Amid all the uncertainty the pandemic created in our community, patients in area hospitals still need blood for trauma, cancer, and even COVID-19,” said Bloodworks Northwest President & CEO Curt Bailey. “The Seattle Mariners, Seahawks, Storm, and Sounders FC joining together to make blood donation opportunities available at T-Mobile Park will ensure patients get the the hard-fought remissions and recoveries they deserve.”

Though the hosted blood drives are dedicated for staff, friends and family, each team is encouraging their fans, including those who’ve never donated blood before, to make their one-hour donation [appointment](#) today as a safe and essential action to support local patients. In accordance with current social distancing guidelines, only scheduled appointments will be allowed and no walk-ins, guests, or people under age 16 are permitted onsite. On the day of their appointment, fans are invited to wear team colors as they save a life **#Together4SEA**.

Although hospitals are postponing elective surgeries for now, people of all blood types are still needed to [make an appointment](#) to give blood every day in support of cancer patients, trauma victims, premature babies, or to treat severely ill COVID-19 patients, among others.

Also supporting the effort are Mariners corporate partners Pepsi and Hempler’s Foods, which are providing refreshments for all donors during the pop-up blood drives at T-Mobile Park. Bonus donor perks provided by Jimmy John’s, Paseo, OBerto, See’s Candies, and Briotech.

Bloodworks has posted information addressing questions and concerns for blood donors at bloodworksnw.org/coronavirus. Blood donation takes about an hour from registration to post-donation refreshment. Information about [who can donate](#) and where, is available at www.bloodworksnw.org.

Additional Resources:

For the latest information on COVID-19 please visit the [CDC website](#) and Washington State Department of Health [COVID-19 main page](#).

About Bloodworks Northwest – Bloodworks Northwest is backed by 75 years of Northwest history and 250,000 donors. It is local, nonprofit, independent, volunteer-supported and community-based. A recognized leader in transfusion medicine, Bloodworks serves patients at 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. Blood donation appointments can be scheduled at bloodworksnw.org.