

For Immediate Release



Date: 17 February, 2021

Contact: John Yeager | 425-765-9845 | JYeager@BloodworksNW.org

Karen Kirby | 206-689-6359 | karenk@bloodworksnw.org

Seattle Mariners Honored by Blood Banking Industry for Blood Drive of the Year

More Than 3,200 Units Collected in 2020 at Mariners Pop-Up Donor Center

Seattle, WA —Seattle-based Bloodworks Northwest is honored to announce that the Seattle Mariners Pop-Up Donor Center at T-Mobile Park is being recognized nationally by America's Blood Centers' (ABC's) as the Outstanding Blood Drive of the Year. Bloodworks nominated the Mariners for this honor for the impact "Pop-Ups" have had on our community. America's Blood Centers says it was their most competitive category with 20 total nominations from 14 blood centers across the nation.

From April 13th to June 25th, 2020, the Pop-Up Donor Center at T-Mobile Park brought in more than 3,200 units of life-saving blood. 1,186 of these Pop-Up Donor Center donors were brand new donors. In the spring of 2020, the Pop-Up concept was a direct response to the challenges brought on by the need to collect blood under strict social distancing guidelines as the COVID-19 spread across the Pacific Northwest in the spring. The first COVID-19 fatality in the nation was confirmed here in Western Washington in February, 2020.

This was Bloodworks Northwest's first ever Pop-Up Donor Center. The Pop-Up Donor Center proved so successful that it was expanded to Lumen Field in Seattle, Tacoma's Cheney Stadium, The Paramount Theatre, The Museum of Flight in Seattle, The Portland Art Museum, and dozens of other venues across the Pacific Northwest. But it all started with the Seattle Mariners at T-Mobile Park.

The ABC Outstanding Blood Drive of the Year is given to one blood drive that has demonstrated excellence in promoting blood donation through recruitment and collections efforts, to establishing blood donation as a priority, either within an organization, in the community, or in a high school or college.

The award is given based on a combination of any or all of the following criteria:

- Circumstances (i.e., scheduled or disaster related)
- Demonstration of consistency of donations and support
- Demonstration of innovative recruitment techniques that can be replicated in other locations

- High ratio of units donated per group population (i.e., number of units donated / number of employees)
- Organization's leadership in establishing blood donation programs as a high priority within the organization
- Organization's leadership demonstrating a strong commitment to blood donation advocacy by challenging internal and external groups to become actively involved in their blood programs
- Overall commitment, enthusiasm and loyalty to the blood drive and blood donation.

ABOUT THE AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE: The Awards of Excellence program provides national recognition to individuals, civic groups, media, and corporations for their commitment to community and national blood programs.

"I want to thank Bloodworks Northwest for giving the Mariners the opportunity to make T-Mobile Park available to serve our community during this world-wide health crisis," says John Stanton, Seattle Mariners Chairman and Managing Partner. "This award is a great honor and an example of what we can do when we work together to find creative solutions to overwhelming challenges. I hope our partnership with Bloodworks Northwest will continue for many years."

"We are overjoyed at this news! T-Mobile Park is where Pop-Ups began," says Curt Bailey, President & CEO for Bloodworks Northwest. "We couldn't ask more of a community partner than what the Seattle Mariners offered us for this award-winning Pop-Up site. And this support came at a time during the early days of the pandemic when the stability of the local blood supply was very much in doubt. The Pop-Ups have helped Bloodworks Northwest and our community weather the storm."

What is a Pop-Up Donor Center?

Pop-Up Donor Centers are multi-week drives in spacious, temporary venues which are providing the opportunity for hundreds of (socially distanced) donor appointments per day. Extended hours at permanent donor centers also play a key role in maintaining the blood supply. The award announcement was videotaped at a ceremony Tuesday, February 9th at T-Mobile Park.

Make blood donation Appointments at bloodworksnw.org or by calling 800-398-7888. **Donation is by appointment only to ensure appropriate social distancing;** no walk-ins. Also, no visitors and no visitors under the age of 16. All donors must wear a mask. Donating blood is safe, and there is no risk of contracting coronavirus from the donation process. (Source: [AABB](#)) Bloodworks policies comply with FDA, CDC, local health departments and other recommendations related to COVID-19. Bloodworks follows CDC guidance on wearing masks and other safety precautions. 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](#), Washington State Department of Health [COVID-19 main page](#), and [Oregon Health Authority](#).

Bloodworks Donor Centers:

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

- [Bellevue Center](#)
1807 132nd Avenue NE
Bellevue, WA 98005
- [Bellingham Center](#)
410 W Bakerview Rd., Suite 117
Bellingham, WA 98226
- [Central Seattle](#)
921 Terry Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104
- [Everett Center](#)
2703 Oakes Avenue
Everett, WA 98201
- [Federal Way Center](#)
1414 S 324TH Street, B101
Federal Way, WA 98003
- [Lynnwood Center](#)
19723 Highway 99, Suite F
Lynnwood, WA 98036
- [Olympia Center](#)
1220 Eastside Street SE
Olympia, WA 98501
- [North Seattle Center](#)
10357 Stone Avenue N
Seattle, WA 98133
- [Silverdale Center](#)
3230 NW Randall Way
Silverdale, WA 98383
- [Tukwila Center](#)
130 Andover Park E
Tukwila, WA 98188
- [Vancouver, WA Donor Center](#)
9320 NE Vancouver Mall Blvd, Suite100
Vancouver, WA 98662
- [Eugene, OR Center](#)
2211 Willamette St
Eugene, OR 97405

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.

About ABC: Founded in 1962, America's Blood Centers is the national organization bringing together community-based, independent blood centers. Our member organizations operate more than 600 blood collection sites providing close to 60 percent of the U.S., and a quarter of the Canadian, blood supply. These blood centers serve more than 150 million people and provide blood products and services to more than 3,500 hospitals and healthcare facilities across North America. All ABC U.S. members are licensed and regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.