



Siouxland Community Blood Bank

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**SIOUX CITY HOSPITALS HAVE RECORD
BLOOD DONATION**

SIOUX CITY, IA January 19, 2009—Staff at Mercy Medical Center and St. Luke’s Regional Medical Center donated enough blood with the Siouxland Community Blood Bank to save 312 patients.

Last Friday, January 16, both Sioux City hospitals competed to see which hospital could donate the most blood at their individual blood drives. St. Luke’s Regional Medical Center won the challenge with 76 people registering to donate and 62 units of blood collected. Mercy Medical Center’s blood drive registered 42 donors with 42 units of blood collected.

“On behalf of the patients in the hospitals that we supply blood to, the Siouxland Community Blood Bank is grateful and appreciative of the efforts of both of the hospitals,” said Jan Twait, CEO for the Siouxland Community Blood Bank. “We knew that both hospitals were capable of blood drives of this magnitude, but sometimes throwing out a friendly competition is what really drives the donations; we all want to save lives and we all have a little competitive spirit in us.”

With these blood drives, St. Luke’s Regional Medical Center has tripled its usual number of units collected in a drive and Mercy Medical Center has doubled its units.

“To make a jump this large in the number of units of blood donated is remarkable,” Twait said. “If you consider the fact that one unit of blood has the potential to save three lives, then the 104 combined units from these hospitals has potentially saved 312 people.”

The Siouxland Community Blood Bank is a nonprofit organization that is the sole supplier of volunteer blood and blood products to 37 hospitals in Siouxland including St. Luke’s and Mercy. To be eligible to donate you must be 17 (16 with a signed parental consent form found at www.siouxlandbloodbank.org), be in general good health and may not have donated blood in the past 56 days. For more information about the Siouxland Community Blood Bank or locations of their next blood drives, visit their website at www.siouxlandbloodbank.org or call 800-798-4208.