



# News...

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## EVANSTON BLOOD DRIVE A SUCCESS

**EVANSTON, IL** – City of Evanston employees eagerly participated in a blood drive at the Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center on August 27<sup>th</sup> to help replenish area blood reserves. Nearly 30 city employees donated blood last week that will help cancer patients in need of platelets, burn victims in need of plasma, and red blood cells for those in need of transfusions.

“These donations will immediately help save the lives of 87 Chicagoland patients,” explained Maureen Crowley with LifeSource Blood Center, the organization working with the City on its blood drives. “We are always in the need of donors and encourage area residents to get involved in saving lives.”

“This is one of three blood drives the City sponsors yearly,” added Mayda Figueroa, Evanston Health Department organizer of the blood drive. “This will be the twenty-seventh year the City of Evanston has worked with LifeSource on blood drives. Since 2002, the City sponsored drive has collected over 500 units of blood, saving about 1500 lives. We are looking forward to even greater participation in the community to help those in need.”

Seventh Ward Alderman Jane Grover donated last week as well. “This is a great and easy opportunity for residents to give back to their community,” she explained. “It is very important for potential donors to not fall into the mind set that ‘everyone else is donating, therefore I don’t need to.’ If you can donate, you should; blood supplies have a short shelf life and there is a need for a constant supply.”

According to LifeSource, blood donations have the following life spans: red blood cells last for 46 days, platelets last for five days, and plasma can be stored for a year.

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**Photo Cut Line: Seventh Ward Alderman Jane Grover Donates Blood at Civic Center Blood Drive**