

**Carter BloodCare/NTMC Announce August Drives
For Immediate Release**

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Blood donors in the area have several opportunities to give their lifesaving gift during the month of August and earn a pint of Blue Bell ice cream in the process!

Carter BloodCare and its partner hospital in Cooke County, North Texas Medical Center, announce the following blood drive events:

- **Wednesday, August 4: Hometown Pharmacy, Gainesville - 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**
- **Monday, August 16: North Texas Medical Center - 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**
- **Friday, August 20: Walmart Super Center - 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**
- **Saturday, August 21: Valley View United Methodist Church – FireFest - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

The listed dates fall within Carter’s famous “Pint For Pint” campaign, during which each donor receives a coupon for a free pint of Blue Bell ice cream.

“This is a fun promotion,” said Linda Scardis of Carter BloodCare. “And it is really a hit on these hot summer days!”

Potential donors can be **16** years of age with a parent’s consent; 17-year-olds may donate independently. There is no upper age limit for donating blood. All donors must weigh at least 110 pounds, be in good general health and **present a photo ID**. Ideally a donor should also eat a good meal and drink plenty of fluids before giving blood.

Carter BloodCare’s volunteer donors provide lifesaving blood for patients at over 200 healthcare facilities in 56 counties in North, Central and East Texas, including Cooke, Denton, Dallas and Tarrant counties. In addition, they provide the blood needs of M.D. Anderson and are one of three blood centers supplying the U.S. military. Carter is accredited by the American Association of Blood Banks, licensed by the Food and Drug Administration and is a member of America’s Blood Centers.

Donors receive free mini-physicals and can track their cholesterol levels on Carter BloodCare’s website. Carter also provides the opportunity for donors to take advantage of double red cell donation – a procedure that allows a donor to give two units of packed red cells versus the traditional single unit.

Carter provides online scheduling so that donors can schedule their time to donate and reduce or eliminate possible waits. For online scheduling of the Cooke County drives, go to www.carterbloodcare.org - Donate Blood - At Community Blood Drive and type in your zip code.

For more information on donor eligibility, call Carter BloodCare at 1-800-DONATE-4 or visit carterbloodcare.org. There is also donor information available in the front lobby of North Texas Medical Center.

