

BLOOD CENTERS OF THE PACIFIC

(formerly Irwin Memorial Blood Center and Peninsula Blood Bank)

Our Mission:

- ◆ Blood Centers of the Pacific (BCP) is a community-based nonprofit organization that provides blood and blood components to 41 hospitals throughout Northern California and conducts medical research to improve blood safety and patient care.

Our History:

- ◆ BCP was created in 1998 with the merger of the Irwin Memorial Blood Center, the nation's first community-sponsored blood center founded in 1941 – and the Peninsula Blood Bank, created in 1942. In 1999, BCP affiliated with Blood Systems, Inc., the nation's second largest nonprofit blood collection organization.

Providing Blood to Those in Need:

- ◆ BCP collects blood and blood components from volunteer donors throughout Northern California at its 12 donation locations, and through its blood drives held at area businesses, churches and schools. The blood is collected, tested and then sent to area hospitals for transfusion into patients. BCP distributes more than 140,000 pints of blood each year to patients in need.

Other Services Offered:

- ◆ Autologous Donations (donating blood for oneself)
- ◆ Designated Donations (donating blood for a friend or family member)
- ◆ Rare Blood Donor Registry
- ◆ Immunohematology Reference Laboratory
- ◆ Bone Marrow Registry

Conducting Research:

- ◆ BCP's Research and Scientific Services Department uses state-of-the-art technology to conduct research on transfusion safety and patient care. The department is internationally-acclaimed and its researchers work in tandem with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health and the University of California at San Francisco on many ground-breaking projects.

BCP is a member of:

American Association of Blood Banks, America's Blood Centers, Blood Centers of California, and the California Blood Banking Society. BCP is accredited by the American Association of Blood Banks and licensed and regulated by the Food and Drug Administration.