



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 21, 2008

LAKWOOD RANCH DONOR CENTER EXPANDS OUTREACH

Community Blood Center Relocates to Provide More Convenience to Donors

(St. Petersburg, FL: 11/21/08) The Lakewood Ranch Donor Center will open on Monday, December 8, 2008, in a new expanded location with more convenient access and hours to serve donors in Manatee County. The new facility will be located at 11161 East State Road 70, at the corner of Lakewood Ranch Boulevard, in the Lakewood Walk Plaza near Publix. The new days and hours of operation will be as follows:

Monday & Tuesday	10 am - 6:30 pm
Wednesday	8 am - 2 pm
Thursday	8 am - 6:30 pm
Friday	8 am - 2 pm
Saturday	9 am - 3 pm

"We are so excited that our lifesaving donors will be able to visit us later in the evening and on Saturdays," said Tracie Smith, Center Charge. "Not only will donors have more convenient hours, but they will be able to park right in front," said Smith.

Generally, healthy people age 16 (with parental permission) or older who weigh at least 110 pounds can be blood donors. Additional eligibility questions can be answered by calling 1-800-68-BLOOD (25663)

Headquartered in St. Petersburg, FBS currently provides blood and blood components to patients at 61 hospitals and other ambulatory healthcare facilities in 14 Northwest Florida, Southern Alabama and Tampa Bay counties. After a merger is finalized in the new year with Southeastern Community Blood Center in Tallahassee, a combined total of almost 300,000 volunteer donations will be needed annually to serve patients at 84 hospitals in 40 counties.

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Further blood supply information can be found at www.fbsblood.org

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