



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 6, 2022 – Blood Assurance in Chattanooga, Tennessee joins the Alliance for Community Transfusion Services (ACTS) – a strategic and operational alliance of independent blood centers committed to improving efficiency, operations, and opportunities to best serve donors and patients.

Blood Assurance, based in Chattanooga, TN has become the 15th independent blood center to join ACTS. The Alliance was formed in 2010 to strengthen relationships between community blood programs and their local hospitals and stakeholders.

“We’re very excited to add Blood Assurance to our strong alliance of community blood centers,” said Nelson Hellwig, MBA, chief executive officer of ACTS. “Their leadership, innovative spirit, and commitment to the growth of the independent blood banking model makes them a great fit for ACTS.”

“We are honored to join our fellow blood centers as part of the Alliance for Community Transfusion Services (ACTS),” said J.B. Gaskins, President and CEO of Blood Assurance. “I believe it is so important to continue to strengthen our relationships with the community and our area hospitals in order to provide the best service to all patients and our donors.”

About Blood Assurance

Blood Assurance is a nonprofit, full-service regional blood center serving more than 70 health care facilities in Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, Kentucky and North Carolina. Founded in 1972 as a joint effort of the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Medical Society, the Chattanooga Area Hospital Council and the Chattanooga Jaycees, the mission of Blood Assurance is to provide a safe and adequate supply of blood and blood components to every area patient in need.

About the Alliance for Community Transfusion Services

The Alliance for Community Transfusion Services (ACTS) is a strategic and operational alliance of independent blood centers that annually collect, process, and distribute more than 1.8 million blood products to over 900 healthcare facilities and provide various technical services, therapeutic treatments and cellular laboratory operations throughout the United States. Other ACTS members include Bloodworks Northwest (Seattle, WA), Carter BloodCare (Dallas/Fort Worth, TX), Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank (Hershey, PA), Coastal Bend Blood Center (Corpus Christi, TX), Community Blood Center of the Ozarks (Springfield, MO), Houchin Community Blood Bank (Bakersfield, CA), LifeShare Blood Center (Shreveport, LA), MEDIC Regional Blood Center (Knoxville, TN), Oklahoma Blood Institute (Oklahoma City, OK), Sheppard Community Blood Center (Augusta, GA), South Texas Blood and Tissue (San Antonio, TX), SunCoast Blood Centers (Sarasota, FL), Community Blood Center (Appleton, WI) and We Are Blood (Austin, TX).

ACTS members collectively meet challenges and support one another through shared resources, group initiatives, and collective expertise. Through this unique collaboration, ACTS members enjoy the scaled economic benefits typically associated with large, centralized operations without sacrificing the qualitative benefits of independent, community blood banking. ACTS also administers the Blood Emergency Readiness Corps (BERC) program, the nation's first and only emergency blood reserve designed to quickly react to mass casualty events requiring immediate needs for blood products.

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