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BLOOD BANK OF HAWAII OPENS NEW YOUNG STREET DONOR CENTER

Honolulu – On April 10, Blood Bank of Hawaii (BBH) will mark the opening of its new Young Street Donor Center with a blessing and celebration event at 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. A welcoming of Hawaii's first donors to give the gift of life in the new facility will follow at 11:30 a.m.

The center, located at 1907 Young Street, signals a milestone in disaster preparedness for the State of Hawaii, providing an alternate blood inventory and distribution site in case of a catastrophe or should Dillingham Donor Center become inoperable. It also will serve as a gateway for donors travelling to and from East Oahu, and provide an ideal donor location for those living and working in the Makiki, Moiliili and university areas.

"We are excited to have this facility that will allow us to further our emergency planning and serve the growing needs of Hawaii's hospitals and patients," said BBH President and Medical Director Dr. Robyn Yim. "We hope this new, convenient location will encourage current and new donors to donate blood."

The 8,901 square-foot building will house a collection center and blood inventory room. It will also provide much-needed office space, and enable Dillingham Donor Center to expand its laboratory services to Hawaii's 17 civilian hospitals.

BBH staff will be present to answer questions about the new facility during the blessing event. Donor interviews may also be arranged by calling Laurie Chang at 848-4711.

Young Street Donor Center's hours of operation are Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Wednesday through Saturday, 6:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Ample parking is available

Donors wanting to schedule an appointment at Young Street or Dillingham Donor Centers may call 848-4770. For more information, visit www.BBH.org or call Blood Bank of Hawaii at 845-9966. Neighbor island residents may call toll-free at 1-800-372-9966.

Founded in 1941, Blood Bank of Hawaii is a non-profit organization committed to providing a safe and adequate supply of blood, blood products and related transfusion services to Hawaii's patients. BBH is licensed and regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, accredited by AABB, and a member of America's Blood Centers, the nation's largest network of community-based blood programs.

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