

Your child has expressed an interest in donating blood. By participating in this process, your son or daughter will gain experience in community responsibility and feel the joy that accompanies an act of altruism. State law requires consent by a parent or legal guardian for blood donation by a minor (16 & 17 year olds). If you have any questions or concerns about the blood donation process, please contact the donor staff at **St. Mary's Regional Blood Center**, 970 298-2555.

Please complete the following:

- *As the parent or legal guardian of: **Student Donor Name:** _____ **Date of Birth:** _____, I hereby give permission for my son, daughter, or ward to make a whole blood donation to St. Mary's Regional Blood Center. I understand that he/she must be at least 16 years of age to legally donate blood. **I understand that unless I revoke this permission that my son/daughter/ward will be allowed to donate until they are legally able to donate without parental consent at 18 years old.***
- *I understand that St. Mary's Regional Blood Center will use the blood at its discretion and I hereby release the Center, its agents and employees from all claims.*
- *I have read and understand the information detailed below*

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____ Relationship: _____ Optional Parent Phone Number: (____) _____

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS:

DONOR SCREENING

- Your son or daughter will be asked questions about his/her health and medication use, sexual behavior, travel, and other risk factors for infectious disease during a private and confidential interview.
- Your son or daughter will undergo a 'mini-physical' which includes a blood pressure measurement, temperature, pulse, and a hemoglobin check, obtained by a finger prick. Hemoglobin is the part of the blood that has the iron in it.
- Each donation is tested for HIV (the virus that causes AIDS), hepatitis B and C viruses, and several other infectious diseases including investigational tests.
- If any test result or response to the questions suggests that your son or daughter is disqualified from donating blood in the future or may have an infectious disease, his/her name will be added to a confidential list of people who have similar test results or risk factors. When required, we report donor information, including test results, to health departments and regulatory agencies.
- The tests are very sensitive and detect most infections. It is also possible that donors who are not infected will have false positive results. We are required to notify and disqualify donors even when subsequent test results indicate that the donor is not infected.
- We will communicate test results that disqualify your child from future donation directly with your son or daughter. We maintain the confidentiality of the information we obtain about a donor, and release confidential information to his or her parents only with the donor's consent.
- Donor must weigh at least 120 pounds.

WHOLE BLOOD DONATION

- Each whole blood donation uses a new sterile needle to collect about a pint of blood from a vein in the donor's arm.
- Most donors have uneventful donations and do fine afterwards. Occasionally, a donor may become light-headed or dizzy during or after the donation; may faint or lose consciousness; have an upset stomach; a black and blue mark, redness, or pain where the needle was; or very rarely nerve or artery damage.
- Young, first-time, and/or low-weight donors are more likely to experience reactions than other donors.
- Blood donation removes iron and may cause or aggravate iron-deficiency anemia.

If you have questions about blood donation, contact St. Mary's Regional Blood Center at 298-2555