



Proclamation No. 21-0049
Vitalant Blood, Platelet & Convalescent Plasma Donation Drive

WHEREAS, the need for volunteer blood, platelet and convalescent plasma donations is urgent to meet everyday patient needs for traumas, surgeries, cancer treatments and more; and

WHEREAS, Vitalant, the nation's largest independent nonprofit blood services provider, partners with volunteer blood donors to collect about 5,500 donations every day to meet that need across Metro Denver and throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to not only force the cancellation of blood drives held at many schools and businesses, but is also causing an emergency need for convalescent plasma donations which is being given to an average of one in four hospitalized COVID-19 patients; and

WHEREAS, Vitalant is currently testing all completed blood and platelet donations for COVID antibodies to identify new potential convalescent donors; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Surgeon General and FEMA have declared blood, platelet and convalescent plasma donation as essential activities during the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, blood donations come solely from generous volunteer donors and cannot be replicated in a lab; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 37 percent of the population is eligible to donate blood yet less than 10 percent do; and

WHEREAS, the month of January is recognized as National Blood Donor Month and a time to encourage and recognize volunteer blood donors.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That the Council of the City and County of Denver hereby recognizes Vitalant for its work to meet every patient need wherever and whenever it arises.

Section 2. That the Denver City Council shares in the efforts to raise awareness about the ongoing need and hereby joins in the national celebration by proclaiming January 2021 as Blood Donor Month.

Section 3. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Vitalant.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL January 19, 2021

PRESIDENT