

The Carol H. Axelrod Memorial Blood Drive

WE'RE ON OUR WAY TO 10,000!

When we held our first blood drive in October 2008 at Lankenau Medical Center, we had no idea that we would still be holding drives in 2017. We could never have predicted that we would someday be hosting four blood drives a year, three of them in places other than our original location, and that we would be looking toward celebrating our milestone 10th annual drive at Lankenau.

But nothing underscores the expansion of this effort more than the numbers. At that first blood drive in 2008, we collected 136 units of blood, and we were thrilled to realize that the blood drive had had the potential to help as many as 408 patients. We never dreamed that, as of April 2017, the Carol H. Axelrod Memorial Blood Drive would have collected a cumulative total of 2,812 units of blood—enough to save the lives of as many as 8,436 people.

Of course, we aren't stopping there! We have our sights set on helping 10,000 patients by the end of 2017. This means that we must collect 522 units of blood at our blood drives in May, July, and October—and with your continued help and support, we believe that we can do it! We are working hard to fill our “blood bag” completely. Stay tuned for updates on our progress!

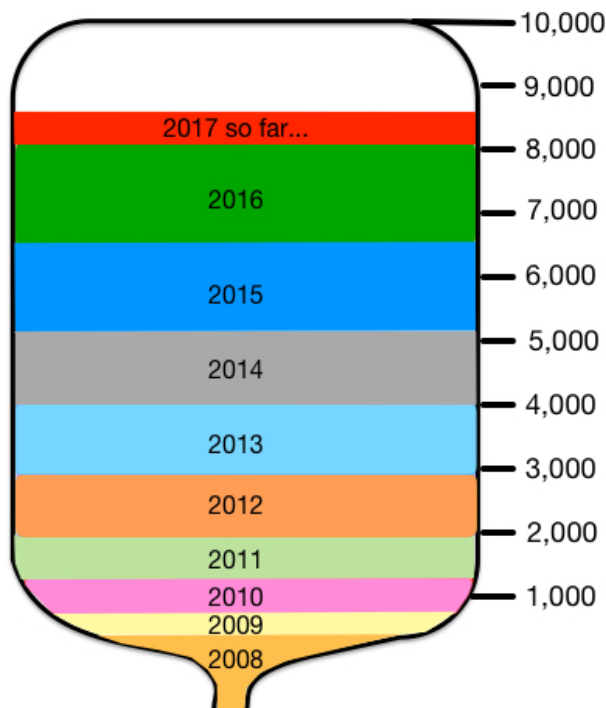
The dates and locations of our remaining 2017 blood drives are listed below. We hope that you will join us at some of those drives and also encourage others to donate lifesaving blood.

Thank you so much for being part of this monumental effort!

Sincerely,

Michelle, Dan, and Emily Scolnick 

**Number of Lives Saved
by the Carol H. Axelrod Memorial Blood Drive**



Mark your calendars!

Thank you for joining us today. We hope to see you at another blood drive in 2017, as we get closer to our goal of helping 10,000 patients since 2008!

The Carol H. Axelrod Memorial Blood Drive

Dates and Locations of Upcoming Drives

July 12, 2017

The Reserve at Gwynedd - Lansdale, PA



October 9 & 10, 2017

Celebrating a very special milestone!

10th Annual Carol H. Axelrod Memorial Blood Drive at Lankenau Medical Center

Wynnewood, PA

For more information about any of our blood drives, please visit www.chablooddrive.org

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook: @CHABloodDrive

COMMUNITY CHALLENGE UPDATE

This May, our Community CHALLENGE
will benefit

Radnor Fire Company
and
Radnor Memorial Library

Radnor Fire Company

The generosity of the community plays a vital role in keeping fire company operations running 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Radnor Fire Company
P.O. Box 485 ♦ Wayne, PA 19087
www.radnorfire.com



Radnor Memorial Library

Providing cultural and intellectual enrichment and lifelong learning for residents of Radnor Township and surrounding communities.

Radnor Memorial Library
114 W. Wayne Avenue ♦ Wayne, PA 19087
www.radnorlibrary.org

Visit www.chablooddrive.org to learn more about all of the organizations that have taken part in our CHALLENGE!

DID YOU KNOW...

Although the American Red Cross has some fixed sites for blood collection, approximately 80% of their blood donations are collected at mobile blood drives such as the one being held at the Radnor Township Municipal Building today. THANK YOU for helping to save lives!



We are thrilled that the Farmers' Gratitude Grille is paying a special visit to our Radnor blood drive to prepare a delicious meal for our blood donors and volunteers. Many, many thanks to Cabot Creamery Co-operative for their support and generosity!

**I CHANGE LIVES
I DONATE BLOOD**

The Carol H. Axelrod Memorial Blood Drive
www.chablooddrive.org

The Story Behind Our Family's Blood Drives

Our family knows from personal experience that blood donors give hospital patients and their loved ones an incomparable gift: the gift of time. Whether a blood donation is used to save a life, to prolong a life, or to improve the quality of life, it allows families to spend more time together, making special memories. Thanks to the generosity of blood donors, our family was given another year with the mother, grandmother, daughter, sister, and aunt we loved.

Carol, a single mother of two daughters, was an elementary school teacher in Philadelphia for over 30 years. In April 2003, she was 55 years old and starting to look ahead to retirement when she was diagnosed with multiple myeloma, an incurable cancer of the blood and bone marrow. In 2004, Carol's disease progressed to the point where her doctor recommended that she undergo two autologous stem-cell transplants, the most aggressive treatment then available to myeloma patients. Although the procedures did put her disease into remission, the cancer returned less than a year later, and in an extremely aggressive form.

In July 2007, just two months before her 60th birthday, Carol was hospitalized as the result of a complication of her illness. At that point, the only thing the doctors could do to try to stabilize the situation was give her multiple transfusions of blood and platelets and hope that her body would eventually start to do what it needed to do to heal itself.

For almost two weeks, Carol received multiple transfusions each day. The doctors said that she could die at any time, especially if they were unable to find the blood products she needed. But incredibly, those blood products were always there—because of all the people who had donated the blood that the doctors were using to try to save her life.

Thanks to blood donors, Carol ultimately was able to leave the hospital. Although she could not resume treatment for the cancer, she was able to live independently and enjoy almost all of her usual activities because, for nearly a year, she received blood and platelet transfusions at least twice a week. Thanks to blood donors, she was able to celebrate her 60th birthday and see her only grandchild turn three years old. And thanks to blood donors, Carol lived until July 1, 2008, enabling her to make a year's worth of memories with her loved ones.

Our family feels that we owe all the special memories of that last year to the generosity of blood donors. Carol's doctors told us that they had never had a patient who was transfusion-dependent for as long as she was. They were amazed that she lived as long as she did, with her only treatment being transfusions of blood and platelets. We were so grateful that the blood products she needed were always available for her.

After Carol passed away, our family organized a blood drive in her memory at Lankenau Medical Center, the hospital where she had received the transfusions. Held in October 2008, it turned out to be the hospital's most successful blood drive up to that point. We decided to turn the blood drive into an annual event and hold it in multiple locations. With every blood drive we hold, we hope to be able to help even more people who need transfusions. Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood; and nine out of ten people will require a blood transfusion at some point during their lives.

Blood donors were the only people who could give our family an extra year with Carol. We created this memorial blood drive in order to help other patients and families by doing our part to ensure that blood products are always available for those who need them. Thanks to donors who are willing to take a little time out of their day to give blood, these patients are able to continue to fight their illnesses—and spend more time with their loved ones.