



**Gulf Coast Regional  
Blood Center**  
*Commit for Life.*

# Media Alert

---

1400 La Concha Lane • Houston, Texas 77054-1802  
PH: (713) 791-6682 FX: (713) 796-0243  
[cmartin@giveblood.org](mailto:cmartin@giveblood.org)  
[www.giveblood.org](http://www.giveblood.org)

## **WEST COLUMBIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL INVITES COMMUNITY TO DONATE BLOOD**

*At Oct. 29 Blood Drive, One Donation Can Save Up to Three Lives*

**WHAT:** More than 1,000 blood donations are needed every day in our region to help meet the needs of trauma victims, cancer patients and others. West Columbia Elementary School is holding a blood drive to help meet this need, and the community is encouraged to help save lives. All who attempt to donate receive a free health check during the screening process. They'll also receive a free commemorative T-shirt. Individuals who *Commit for Life* and donate at least once per quarter help ensure a steady blood supply.

*Commit for Life* members who donate or attempt to donate in September, October or November will be entered to win one of four pairs of Continental Airlines tickets for travel in the contiguous United States. Two *Commit for Life* members who donate or attempt to donate in those months will be selected to each win a pair of BusinessFirst® tickets to visit select international destinations.

**WHEN:** Thursday, Oct. 29 -- 4 to 7 p.m.

**WHERE:** West Columbia Elementary School – Donor Coach  
711 South Gray Ave.  
West Columbia, TX 77486

**For more information, contact Elaine Walters at (979) 345-5191. Visit [www.giveblood.org](http://www.giveblood.org) or call 1(888) 482-5663 to schedule your donation.**

**ABOUT US:** Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center is asking its donors to *Commit for Life*. It takes three simple steps: 1) Donate once per quarter; 2) allow The Blood Center to contact you; and 3) spread the word, encouraging others to *Commit for Life*. The Blood Center is the primary supplier of blood components to more than 170 hospitals and health care facilities in a 26-county Texas Gulf Coast region. Donors must be at least 17 years of age, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and be in good general health. Individuals who are 16 years old, at least 122 pounds, in good general health and have their parents' consent also may donate. The donation process is simple, taking only about one hour. Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center is an independent, nonprofit blood center that is not affiliated with the American Red Cross. **Interact with us on the Web:** [www.giveblood.org/blog](http://www.giveblood.org/blog) • [www.giveblood.org/Facebook](http://www.giveblood.org/Facebook) • [www.twitter.com/commitforlife](http://www.twitter.com/commitforlife) • [www.flickr.com/photos/commitforlife](http://www.flickr.com/photos/commitforlife)

### **MEDIA**

**CONTACT:** Sheena Abraham, (713) 791-6329  
Public Relations Associate, [sabraham@giveblood.org](mailto:sabraham@giveblood.org)  
Cortney Martin, (713) 791-6682  
Public Relations Coordinator, [cmartin@giveblood.org](mailto:cmartin@giveblood.org)

###