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## BROOKINGS AREA WAY AND BOBCAT BACKERS PARTNER WITH AMERICAN RED CROSS TO HOST COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Brookings, SD – Brookings Area United Way and Bobcat Backers will host a community blood drive with the American Red Cross on Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at the Outdoor Adventure Center from 12PM – 6PM.

“Brookings Area United Way is committed to fighting for the health, education and financial stability for every resident in the county. One way we can help to strengthen our community and helping meet hospital and patient needs through blood donations,” said Heidi Gullickson, the Executive Director of Brookings Area United Way. “This blood drive took part turning the time that we are raising awareness of the needs in our community. The Brookings Area United Way not only works to raise funds to help our community, but we look for other ways we can create impact and get others involved.”

Blood is a perishable product that can only come from volunteer blood donors. With someone in the U.S. needing blood every two seconds, blood products must be constantly replenished, according to the Red Cross.

“We urge community members to donate blood and help ensure that patients in local hospitals have a supply of blood ready and waiting before an emergency occurs. There’s no better feeling than knowing that your blood donation may give someone a second chance at life,” Gullickson said.

The public can register by visiting <https://www.redcrossblood.org/> and entering 57006 as the zip code.

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United Way Worldwide is the leadership and support organization for the network of nearly 1,800 community-based United Ways in 45 countries and territories. It advances the common good, creating opportunities for a better life for all, by focusing on education, income and health. The United Way movement mobilizes millions to action - to give, advocate and volunteer – to improve the conditions in which they live. For more information about United Way, please visit: [www.brookingsunitedway.org](http://www.brookingsunitedway.org) or contact Heidi Gullickson. Email to [uw@brookingsunitedway.org](mailto:uw@brookingsunitedway.org) or call 605-692-4979.