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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 20, 2022

BROOKINGS AREA WAY AND BOBCAT BACKERS PARTNER WITH AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE IMPACT

Brookings, SD – Brookings Area United Way and the Brookings Bobcat Backers hosted a community blood drive with the American Red Cross on Wednesday, December 14th, from 12:00pm to 6:00pm at the Outdoor Adventure Center located at 2810 22^{nd} Ave South in Brookings.

The community blood drive had four first time donors in addition to returning donors, totaling to 35 donors. With all the blood donations received, our community blood drive potentially saved 108 lives.

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," said Heidi Gullickson, the Executive Director of Brookings Area United Way.

For the year, Brookings Area United Way in partnership with the Brookings Bobcat Backers and American Red Cross had 372 potential lives saved from 127 donors.

The next American Cross blood drive will be on March 15, 2023. You can sign up by visiting RedCrossBlood.org and entering 57006 as your zip code or by calling 1-800- RED CROSS.

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