



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, April 10th, 2024

CONTACT: Megan Hiler, Public Information Officer
Cell: 970-409-2784

mhiler@clearcreekcounty.us

CLEAR CREEK EMS TO HOST BLOOD DRIVE TO BENEFIT GROUND AMBULANCES

Clear Creek Emergency Medical Services is excited to announce an upcoming blood drive to benefit our neighbors and others in need in Clear Creek County.

The blood drive, [in partnership with Vitalant](#), will take place on Wednesday, April 24th at 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the County Commissioner Meeting room located at 405 Argentine Street in Georgetown.

For background, all Paramedics at Clear Creek EMS are required to attain Critical Care Endorsement through the state of Colorado within one year of being hired. This is the highest level of training and certification possible for a Paramedic. This allows the crews of Clear Creek EMS to provide some of the most progressive care available to patients outside of a hospital environment. Clear Creek EMS can now treat patients using interventions that would have previously required a helicopter.

With the success of the Critical Care Program, Clear Creek EMS will be one of the first ground ambulance agencies in the state to carry whole blood on the ambulance.

“This will allow us to provide immediate, life-saving intervention to the most serious trauma patients at the scene,” Clear Creek EMS Director Aaron Crawley said. “This blood drive and our neighbors' selfless blood donations will help us save even more lives in Clear Creek County. We are committed to providing the highest level of care possible to the residents and visitors of our community.”

Clear Creek EMS has been working with Vitalant and the Colorado Whole Blood Coalition to introduce a program where blood is readily available for patients before they reach a hospital setting, such as on an ambulance or in a helicopter.

“Bleeding is the primary cause of preventable death among trauma patients and studies are beginning to show that providing lifesaving blood as soon as possible after the trauma event,

such as what the Colorado Whole Blood Coalition is trying to do by placing whole blood on EMS vehicles, can be life-changing,” said Vitalant Vice President of Clinical Services Dr. Kevin Land.

A 2022 study from the Journal of the American College of Surgeons found that early whole blood infusions could improve 24-hour and 30-day survival odds by 60% in patients experiencing acute hemorrhagic shock.

“By partnering with organizations like Clear Creek EMS and the Colorado Whole Blood Coalition, we can emphasize the need for blood donations not only for patients currently in the hospital, but for those being transported to a hospital in dire need of a blood transfusion,” said Vitalant Mountain Division Vice President Anne Burtchaell. “We hope more people will choose to give blood in support of their local emergency service providers and their communities.”

Below is a flyer you are welcome to use in your publications. You may also download Vitalant pictures and b-roll [here](#). To learn more about the Colorado Whole Blood Coalition, visit their [website](#).

About Vitalant: Vitalant (Vye-TAL-ent) has served more Colorado patients than any other blood center since 1943 and is the blood provider for over 95% of Colorado hospitals. With 10 Vitalant donation centers and multiple community-hosted blood drives every day, donors can always find a convenient location to give blood and help save lives. Vitalant is one of the nation’s largest nonprofit blood and biotherapies healthcare organizations, providing hospitals and patients across the U.S. a safe blood supply, specialized laboratory services, transfusion medicine expertise and world-renowned research. Individuals generously donating blood, volunteering and giving financially are essential to our lifesaving mission. Learn more at vitalant.org.

###

BLOOD DRIVE



Clear Creek County and EMS

CO WHOLE BLOOD COALITION COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24
10 AM - 2:30 PM
CLEAR CREEK COUNTY COURTHOUSE



April is National Donate Life Month. Give blood to help support patients needing transfusions. Most of the population is eligible to donate, but only 3% give annually.

To schedule an appointment, please visit: donors.vitalant.org and search using Blood Drive Code: 100559763 or scan the QR Code.

 **GIVE BLOOD | vitalant.org**

vitalant. 