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American Red Cross Declares Emergency Blood Shortage ***Southeast Georgia Health System to Host Blood Drive on January 26***

BRUNSWICK, Georgia: January 22, 2024 – The American Red Cross is facing an emergency blood shortage due to the recent winter storms preventing donors from attending blood drives and increasing the number of emergency incidents, such as automobile accidents, that result in an urgent need for blood.

Blood and platelet donations are needed now to help alleviate the shortage and ensure lifesaving medical procedures proceed without delay.

Southeast Georgia Health System is partnering with the American Red Cross to host a blood drive on Friday, Jan. 26, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. The blood drive will be held in the Kemble Conference Center on the Brunswick Campus, 3011 Kemble Avenue, from 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Appointments are required and can be made online by visiting **RedCrossBlood.org** and entering sponsor code “**sghsys**” in the search bar, or call **800-RED-CROSS (800-733-2767)**.

The Health System is experiencing low units of all blood types and particularly the “O” blood types. If you are able, please consider donating.

Donors can save up to 15 minutes at the blood drive by reading and completing the RapidPass® pre-donation health history questionnaire. To complete a RapidPass®, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

ABOUT SOUTHEAST GEORGIA HEALTH SYSTEM

Southeast Georgia Health System is a not-for-profit health system comprised of two acute care hospitals, two long term care facilities, two Cancer Care Centers and multiple specialty care centers, including orthopaedic and spine care, joint replacement, breast care, maternity, outpatient rehabilitation, sleep management and wound care. The Brunswick Campus Cancer Care Center is accredited by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer and is one of the few centers in Georgia to offer CyberKnife® M6 with MLC. Additionally, the Brunswick Campus is accredited by The Joint Commission as an Advanced Primary Stroke Center and the Camden Campus is accredited as an Acute Stroke Ready Hospital. The Southeast Georgia Physician Associates medical group includes more than 160 providers working in 20 different medical specialties at more than 50 locations. The Health System is part of Coastal Community Health, a regional affiliation between Baptist Health and Southeast Georgia Health System, a highly integrated hospital network focused on significant initiatives designed to enhance the quality and value of care provided to our contiguous communities. For more information, visit sghs.org.

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