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**Employees donate blood at American Red Cross drive held onsite at Metro Headquarters**

(Sept. 24, 2009) Metro employees at Gateway H.Q. donated enough blood during the Sept. 16 drive to potentially save as many as 177 lives, said organizer and Asst. Administrative Analyst Raul Rodarte.

A total of 74 people made appointments, and of those, 59 were able to provide one full bag or pint of blood translating into three lives potentially saved per pint, according to American Red Cross statistics.

The turnout increased by as many as 20 donors over the previous drive Rodarte said, noting that he sent out additional information to remind employees about the event after an initial e-mail blast.

With blood bank reserves routinely only about 48 hours from the point of depletion across Los Angeles, Rodarte said it wouldn't be a bad idea to hold another drive.

"Normally we do it once a year. There's no reason why we can't do it twice a year," he said. Names of those who participated will be submitted into a regional drawing to win a \$1,500 gift card.

--from Laura Kloth

The need is constant.  
The gratification is instant.

Give blood.

Organizers increase turnout by sending out an e-mail blast with this message to remind employees to donate blood.