



North Carolina HOSA Chapters Partner with Organizations to Provide Blood

North Carolina HOSA has a partnership with several blood donation services. This year the North Carolina American Red Cross received our Partnership Award for years working together to provide much needed blood to the communities of North Carolina and providing recognition for the HOSA chapters who have the blood drives. This year at our state conference, eighteen schools received certificates of appreciation from the Red Cross. Several other schools received awards for having the most donors, highest percentage of donors, and having the most drives in a school year.

Three years ago another blood service, Rex Blood Services, approached NC-HOSA to arrange a similar partnership. Rex Blood Services is a not-for-profit organization that started supplying the blood needs of one hospital back in 1962 and now supplies the needs of hospitals and military bases across the central region of North Carolina.

Since last year's state conference, high school blood drives, through the Rex Blood Services, have seen 2,924 donors, collected 2,119 pints of blood that helped save approximately 6,357 people. Rex Blood Services offers t-shirts to the student donors to encourage and celebrate their participation.

Sue Cain, the high school representative, stated that because of the support and enthusiasm of the local HOSA chapters, the design on this year's t-shirt for the Rex Blood Services High School Blood Donor Program displays a new acronym for HOSA – Helping Others Stay Alive. Ms. Cain stated that through the high school blood drives, the members of HOSA are helping persons stay alive by donating much needed blood.

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Since the establishment of these two partnerships has been so successful, we now have an additional two partnerships with the Blood Donor Center of Cape Fear Valley and the Community Blood center of the Carolinas. Through these partnerships, the people of North Carolina received the possibility of having a much needed supply of blood and the members of HOSA have the opportunity to be involved in their community and receive recognition for a job well done.