

Denver School of Nursing Hosts a Campus Blood Drive

Students and Faculty Donate Blood to BONFILS Blood Center



DECEMBER 17, 2016 – DENVER, CO— Denver School of Nursing partnered with BONFILS Blood Center to host a blood drive on the Lower Downtown Denver campus. The school's student commons area, usually utilized for group studying and socializing, was transformed into a blood donation center. Many students enjoyed the break from reading textbooks to donate blood, while other students made it a priority to donate blood despite continuing to study for exams. Nursing school faculty members joined the campus event to donate blood between instructing classes.

BONFILS Blood Center (<https://www.bonfils.org/index.cfm>) staffed the blood drive with four phlebotomists to run an efficient and safe event. Potential donors completed a personal health interview, a health history questionnaire, and had vital signs and hemoglobin checked to become eligible to donate. "When a potential donor is denied eligibility, it is to protect the patient who would receive the blood. Certain medications, recent tattoos, out of country travel, and some diseases disqualify a donor. We have to do extensive screening to ensure safety to the recipients receiving the donated blood", says a BONFILS Blood Center staff phlebotomist.

BONFILS Blood Center needs thousands of donors, of all blood types, each week to meet the needs of our community. The average adult has about ten pints of blood in his or her body; roughly one pint is given during a donation. The entire process takes about one hour to complete the donor questionnaire, health screening, and enjoy post-donation snacks. The donation itself takes only ten minutes. Trevor Johnson, a DSN student, valued the quick process of giving blood, while he continued to study on campus, saying "I donate to save a life in need".

The DSN campus blood drive collected 28 units of blood from 84 donors, including 26 first time donors. Taylor Caldwell, a DSN student, who gave blood for the first time, stated "Blood is the elixir of life, and we can share it with those in need safely through donation". It is estimated that 38% of the U.S. population is eligible to donate at any given time, yet less than 10% of that eligible population actually donates each year. DSN students realize the importance of donating blood as artificial blood products are still years away.

About Denver School of Nursing (DSN)

Denver School of Nursing, 1401 19th St., Denver, is a private, post-secondary college that provides educational programs and training for nursing professionals. The college specializes in offering rigorous curricula, clinical site-based academic programs toward associate and bachelor degrees in nursing and distance-delivered academic programs toward a bachelor degree in nursing. DSN is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), (www.hlcommission.org), (800-621-7440). Its associate and baccalaureate programs are accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30326 (404-975-5000). DSN is granted full approval for its associate and bachelors nursing programs by the Colorado State Board of Nursing. National Council of State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (SARA) approval is maintained through the Colorado Department of Higher Education. For more information, call 303-292-0015 or visit www.denverschoolofnursing.edu.