

CITY OF FRESNO

Office of Councilmember Paul Caprioglio

WHEREAS, at the beginning of each New Year it is proven to be more difficult for organizations to collect blood for patients in need; and

WHEREAS, the busy holiday schedule and constant winter travel may cancel or move some potential blood drives later into the New Year. It is also a time of year when flu season may turn away would be donors who fall ill; and

WHEREAS, while the amount of blood donation lowers at the beginning of each year due to these hurdles, the need for blood across the community does not slow down. According to the American Red Cross, over 21,000 people receive blood products from donors across the nation each day; and

WHEREAS, since January 1970, National Blood Donor Month has been an important reminder that a simple donation of blood can save or improve the life of an individual in the community and across the nation; and

WHEREAS, the **Central California Blood Center (CCBC)** was first established in 1954 as the Central California Blood Bank and adopted its current name in 1995 after serving Central California for decades at several different locations in Fresno. Today there are three blood centers in Fresno, one in Visalia, and mobile buses that are used to reach blood drives in distant communities. The CCBC is a driving force in the collection of blood throughout Central California; and

WHEREAS, a robust community that is healthy and willing to donate blood to help save lives are the students at Fresno State. With the partnership between the CCBC and Richter Center, blood drives and donor events are frequently found at Fresno State which not only rallies the students on campus, but the areas surrounding the campus as well; and

WHEREAS, we thank those who roll up their sleeve to help save the life of someone in the community and hope to inspire new donors to help save lives throughout all of 2019.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, Mayor Lee Brand and the Fresno City Councilmembers, do hereby proclaim the month of January 2019 to be:

“National Blood Donor Month”

in the City of Fresno