

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Starlight, Community Blood Center and Swope Park Organizations Host Community Blood Drive



Due to the coronavirus pandemic, local blood supply remains at dangerously low levels.

NAME OF EVENT: Swope Park Community Blood Drive

EVENT DESCRIPTION: While Starlight is unable to hold live entertainment events at this time, staff and leadership continue to search for alternative uses for the historic venue. In response to Community Blood Center's urgent need for blood, Starlight will host a public blood drive in partnership with Swope Park area organizations.

LOCATION, DATE & TIME: Parking is available in the Zoo's Zebra and Cheetah parking lots.

- **Location:** Starlight Theatre's Applause Club
- **Date:** Thursday, July 16, 2020
- **Time:** 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. CDT

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: As regions have reopened and hospitals have resumed elective surgeries, Community Blood Center has issued an urgent call for healthy blood donors. The need for blood has rebounded to pre-COVID-19 levels, but the blood supply is dangerously low. In order to maintain a safe blood supply, a seven-day inventory of all blood types must be continually replenished.

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Donors are asked to wear a face mask to their donation or one will be provided to them upon arrival. Appointments are strongly encouraged, and walk-ins will only be accepted if capacity allows. Appointments can be made online at savealifenow.org/group and enter Group Code: EG9Z, or call 1-877-468-6844.

In order to protect CBC staff, healthy blood donors and our community blood supply, individuals are instructed not to attend the blood drive if they are experiencing a fever or other symptoms of COVID-19 (chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing) or have been diagnosed with or suspected of having COVID-19 until 14 days after their illness has resolved. Please note: CBC does NOT test for COVID-19. Additional information is available at savealifenow.org/coronavirus.

Follow Starlight on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @kcstarlight.

About Starlight

Opened as a theatre in 1950 and a nonprofit organization in 1951, Starlight is the largest and oldest performing arts institution in Kansas City and provides inspiring, one-of-a-kind experiences to its patrons. Starlight presents and produces Broadway musicals, concerts and Indoors shows in addition to offering extensive community engagement programming, including classes, scholarships and Starlight's Blue Star Awards, one of the largest high school musical theatre award programs in the nation.

Located on 16 acres in Swope Park, Starlight's historic, city-owned venue is the second-largest outdoor producing theatre in the country and includes rehearsal halls, a museum, club area for dining, concessions, gardens, fountains and a 10-story, climate-controlled stage. For more information, visit kcstarlight.com.

About Community Blood Center of Greater Kansas City (CBC)

Community Blood Center, now part of the NYBC family, serves hospitals in the Kansas City metropolitan area, as well as eastern Kansas and western Missouri. CBC provides nearly 200,000 blood products per year to approximately 65 area hospitals – and calls upon about 580 donors each day to meet the need for a life-saving gift of blood. The blood center makes timely deliveries of safe, high-quality products to meet transfusion needs, for routine care and emergencies. For more information, visit <http://www.savealifenow.org/>.

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