

Rock River Valley

BLOOD CENTER

Straight From the Heart



Rock River Valley Blood Center Earns AABB Accreditation

September 12, 2011—The Rock River Valley Blood Center (RRVBC) has been granted AABB accreditation, according to RRVBC CEO, Linda Gerber. Accreditation follows an intensive on-site assessment by specially trained AABB assessors and establishes that the level of technical and administrative performance within the facility meets or exceeds the standards set by the AABB. By successfully meeting those requirements, RRVBC joins similar facilities throughout the United States and around the world that also have earned AABB Accreditation.

“The AABB’s Accreditation procedures are voluntary,” Gerber explained. “RRVBC has sought AABB Accreditation because this program assists facilities world wide in achieving excellence by promoting a level of professional and technical expertise that contributes to quality performance and patient safety.” RRVBC has been a member of AABB since it was established as a community blood center in 1952. RRVBC has received accreditation since AABB began this process in 1958.

Donating blood is safe and simple. You are most likely able to donate if you are at least 17 years old (16 year olds may donate with parental consent), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in general good health. Persons taking medications are not necessarily disqualified. There are four community donor centers throughout the area (Belvidere, Freeport, Rockford) as well as many mobile blood drives. Log on to www.rrvbc.org for hours, directions and mobile blood drive schedules.

The Rock River Valley Blood Center serves as a centralized, community blood center and is the sole provider of blood products and services to Beloit Memorial Hospital, Edgerton Hospital and Health Services, FHN, Mercy Harvard Hospital, OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center, Rochelle Community Hospital, Rockford Health System, SwedishAmerican Health System and SwedishAmerican Medical Center—Belvidere. For more information or to make an appointment to donate blood, please call toll free 877-RRVBC-99 or find RRVBC on the web at www.rrvbc.org.

Established in 1947, **AABB** is an international, not for profit association dedicated to the advancement of science and the practice of transfusion medicine and related biological therapies. The association is committed to improving health by developing and delivering standards, accreditation and educational programs and services to optimize patient and donor care and safety.

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