



BLOOD EMERGENCY READINESS CORPS

What is the Blood Emergency Readiness Corps (BERC)?

BERC is a group of blood centers across the nation who commit to joining together to be prepared for mass transfusion disasters that may strike. These blood centers commit to collecting extra units on a rotating “on call” schedule to create an available supply of blood for emergency needs. Blood Assurance is proud to be a BERC member to help other communities in need and to ensure that we will always have what we need in the case of a mass trauma.

Why is BERC needed?

In many disasters and critical-need scenarios – like a mass shooting, natural disaster or large-scale car crash – a large amount of blood is needed immediately. In the post-COVID world, most blood centers don’t have enough blood on their shelves to handle these types of disasters and are forced to request blood units from neighboring blood collectors, who are also struggling to maintain an adequate supply. By creating BERC, blood will be ready and available if needed, without delays and uncertainty.

What if no disaster occurs and the blood isn’t needed?

Since blood is perishable, the units will be returned to Blood Assurance to be used for our area patients in need.

How can I help as a BERC drive coordinator?

In the days and week leading up to Blood Assurance’s week in the rotation, we will need to collect extra to be prepared to help if needed. The best way you can help is by promoting your drive internally and by helping us engage our community and encourage participation through media, social media, and more.

What’s different about being a BERC drive?

We are asking you to participate because we know your organization has what it takes to save lives! We know we can count on your organization to show up, show out, engage, and contribute what we need to our blood supply.



“Being prepared for all emergencies big or small is essential as a blood donation center. BERC is giving us and blood centers across the nation the ability to prepare for the unthinkable and unexpected. We are proud to be able to help other blood centers in a time of need and grateful that help will also be extended to us.”

J.B. GASKINS
BLOOD ASSURANCE PRESIDENT & CEO



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