



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – February 28, 2017

Contact:

Loreen McFaul, Executive Director

Blood Center Foundation of the Inland Northwest

509-869-7347 | loreen@bloodcenterfoundation.org

Blood Center Foundation of the Inland Northwest Begins 2017 Grant Funding

Spokane, WA – In the first two months of 2017, the Blood Center Foundation of the Inland Northwest has welcomed three members to its Board of Directors, completed the Build Your Bloodmobile Capital Campaign and awarded five grants.

With the November merger between Blood Systems Inc. and the Inland Northwest Blood Center (INBC), three INBC Board of Director members have joined the Board of the Blood Center Foundation of the Inland Northwest. Cathy Simchuk, Independent Health Care Consultant; Christopher Montague, M.D., InCyte Diagnostics; and Sidney Kasuga, Ph.D., Eastern Washington University began their service in February.

Life Saver 5, a new custom bloodmobile, will be added to the INBC fleet in May, thanks to capital campaign funding provided by the Blood Center Foundation of the Inland Northwest. “Reaching our \$350,000 goal in just over one year is a testament to the power of collaboration,” said Executive Director Loreen McFaul. “Gifts from Board and staff, community donors, proceeds from 2016 Epicurean Delight and a top-off grant of \$130,000 from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust combined for a very successful effort. Life Saver 5 will serve rural communities in eastern Washington and north Idaho that give INBC 60% of all blood and blood product donations.”

Last, the Blood Center Foundation of the Inland Northwest has funded five grants so far this year:

1. Three education grants of \$1,500 each for the Blood Center Foundation of the Inland Northwest Elementary/Middle School STEM Leadership Grant to St. Thomas More Catholic School and St. Charles Catholic School in Spokane and Stratton Elementary School in Newport.
2. \$1,550.80 technology grant to North Idaho College Foundation Phlebotomy Program for classroom equipment.
3. \$2,900 education grant to the Inland Northwest Blood Center to underwrite the 2017-18 INBC High School Heroes Program.

####

Moving the future of healthcare forward, the Blood Center Foundation of the Inland Northwest invites you to learn more at bloodcenterfoundation.org.