

# PRESS RELEASE



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## BANTERRA BANK TO ASSIST AMERICAN RED CROSS DUE TO COVID-19 OUTBREAK; MOBILE BLOOD UNIT TO SET UP AT MULTIPLE BRANCHES

**Marion, IL** – In response to the nationwide blood shortage due to the COVID-19 outbreak, Banterra has responded to the national plea for assistance and has teamed up with the American Red Cross (ARC) to host the ARC Mobile Blood Unit at two banking center locations. The mobile blood unit will be at the following Banterra locations from 10 am – 2pm: March 24<sup>th</sup> - Carbondale (1500 West Main St.), March 27<sup>th</sup> - Marion (next to Home Depot at 3201 Banterra Drive) and March 30<sup>th</sup> - Cape Girardeau (1650 N. Kingshighway). Other locations will be added as needed.

“We heard the national plea for blood donors in yesterday’s White House press conference and our team jumped on the phone to make this happen quickly,” said Jeff May, president of Banterra Bank. “Working with American Red Cross is just one of the ways you will see Banterra offer support during this coronavirus health crisis.”

“We are thankful for Banterra Bank in their quick response to the nation’s call, as several area blood drives had recently canceled due coronavirus impact,” said Mindy Hendrix, Account Manager of Donor Recruitment at the American Red Cross. “This truly is a critical time to offer blood donations. It is quick, easy and we have CDC-recommended health measures in place for everyone’s safety.”

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the American Red Cross has implemented additional measures to ensure the health and safety of all donors. This includes taking temperatures before giving, placing chairs outside the mobile unit and requiring social distancing. Donors can also wait in their cars if they feel more comfortable. To be eligible to give blood, you must be at least 110 pounds, be in good health and have a valid photo ID. Appointments can be made in advance at [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.redcrossblood.org) or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App. Walk-ins are also welcome.

*Banterra Bank* began as a single bank in Ridgway, Illinois in July of 1975. Today, *Banterra* has \$2 billion in assets and is ranked in the Top Ten Percent of U.S. Charter Banks and Top Five Percent for Illinois Charter Banks, according to asset size. *Banterra* has 40 locations in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, and Arizona as well as a specialty lending division that serves customers nationwide. For information, call 866-BANTERRA (226-8377), or go to [www.banterra.com](https://www.banterra.com).

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