



## **For Immediate Release**

### **Media Contact:**

Teicia Gaupp

[comms@redbankcharterschool.com](mailto:comms@redbankcharterschool.com)

908-531-7182

## **Red Bank Charter School Partners with Little Doctors Program® and Lakewood Blue Claws To Host Community Blood Drive**

**Red Bank, NJ — April 16, 2015** — As an on-going commitment to service-learning, on Friday, May 1, 2015 from 2:00 pm to 6:30 pm, Red Bank Charter School (RBCS) will host a community blood drive in partnership with the Little Doctor's Program of the New York Blood Center, serving tristate area hospitals. RBCS parents, faculty, staff and local area residents are invited to RBCS, 58 Oakland Street, Red Bank, NJ to participate in this collaborative effort to help save lives.

"Approximately 1 in 5 people entering a hospital needs blood, so donors are always in constant demand," said RBCS Nurse Sonia Saul. "A single donation of blood has the impact to save several lives, and our collective efforts in a single day can support the critical needs of many in our surrounding area."

Anyone who is at least 17 years old, weighs a minimum of 110 lbs and is in generally good health can donate blood. A signed parental consent form is required for 16 year olds, and those 76 and older require a doctor's note. The process takes about 1 hour and all blood types are needed. Donors should bring ID and eat at regular meal times.

Fun and educational activities are planned for those who are too young to donate. RBCS Student Ambassadors will assist in the day. Our goal is to collect 30 pints which can help as many as 90 patients. If we reach that goal, one lucky donor will receive a baseball jersey of their choice, courtesy of New York Blood Center. RBCS will be honored at a Lakewood Blue Claws game in the Spring for service-learning activities and sponsorship of the blood drive.

"It is our great mission at RBCS to incorporate service to others into every aspect of our learning experience," said RBCS President Meredith Pennotti. "We are pleased to partner with New York Blood Center's Little Doctor's Program and the Lakewood Blue

Claws in an effort to help others in need of life-saving blood and this important initiative of giving.”

“The New York Blood Center’s Little Doctor’s Program® is very excited to join efforts with Red Bank Charter school in our first joint blood drive. We are pleased that the blood collected at this drive will help patients in area hospitals. We look forward to working together to donate the gift of life,” said NY Blood Center Account Manager Lynne Ross.

To schedule an appointment to donate blood contact RBCS School Nurse Sonia Saul at 732-450-2092 ext 15. Walk-ins are welcome at this drive.

For additional information please contact Red Bank Charter School at (732) 450-2092. Media Contact: Teicia Gaupp, Social T Marketing +1-908-531-7182, [comms@redbankcharterschool.com](mailto:comms@redbankcharterschool.com)

#### **ABOUT THE RED BANK CHARTER SCHOOL**

The Red Bank Charter School is a PreK-8 public school serving children in Red Bank, N.J. Founded in 1998, the school has a current enrollment of 180 students with a highly qualified faculty and staff numbering more than 40. New Jersey Charter Schools are free public schools that are open to all children and which typically offer their students more individualized attention, longer school days, longer school years, and innovative programs with substantially less funding than conventional public schools. Further information is available at [www.redbankcharterschool.com](http://www.redbankcharterschool.com).

#### **ABOUT THE LITTLE DOCTORS PROGRAM®**

NYBC’s Little Doctors Program® is the brainchild of Putnam Valley Middle School 6th grade teacher Karen Brothers. Karen knew her students would learn about volunteerism, community service, and the science of blood by organizing community blood drives. The program is designed for faculty and students at elementary and middle schools. Young students bring creativity and magic to the program, and hundreds of schools across our area are now participating. <http://www.nybc.org/special-programs/little-doctors/>.