

Press Release

Contact: Kelley Caldwell-Gregory
(253)383-2553 Ext. 234

October 2, 2002

Cascade Adds Mobile Coach #4 to Service Fleet

Tacoma, WA –With increased donor requests for mobile blood donation services, Cascade Regional Blood Services announces the edition of its fourth completely self-contained mobile unit to begin service Monday, October 7, 2002. The 2002 Blue Bird CS coach is a completely customized, 30-foot long diesel motor coach that contains three medical history areas, three donor beds and relies on remote wireless service to register donors. Special thanks go to our major sponsors: Columbia Bank, Capitol One, the Kiwanis Clubs of Pierce County and the Pierce County Central Labor Council.



“Research tells us that donors are interested in shorter donation times (30 – 45 minutes from paperwork to juice and cookies), and they want us to come directly to their sites. We’re happy to do that and we are really fortunate to have the community support that helps us purchase these vital mobile units,” said Charlie Drummond. The coach was “specially designed to meet the needs of some of our local businesses that have smaller donor groups and smaller parking areas,” said Drummond. Mobile units provide at least 50% of blood donations in Pierce County.

The new mobile comes from L & S Custom Coaches, Inc. in Hudson, Florida who is the premier custom coach producer in the U.S. and has built and delivered over 700 vehicles for blood banks and health care providers. This particular coach comes with a price tag of approximately \$130,000, completely outfitted and ready for service.

The CS Series coach is designed with many features that provide easy maneuverability, great fuel economy, and low maintenance costs,” according to Steve Scott, L & S Custom Coach vice president. The children and the Jack Russell terrier that are painted on both sides distinguish the coach. “Two of the kids have red hair,” said Drummond, “to represent the two redheads on our staff here at Cascade.”

The new coaches' first [blood drive](#) is scheduled on October 22. An Open House and tours will be held in mid-October. Call for a tour or for more information: 253-383-2553, ext 234. When the new coach isn't out in the community, it is parked at the Elks Lodge on the corner of Union and 21st Streets.

Cascade Regional Blood Service's mission is to provide a constant, safe, cost effective supply of [blood](#) and blood components to the communities it serves.