

Media statement

12 June 2019

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service gives blood, shares life.

Staff from across the Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service (SCHHS) are rolling up their sleeves once again to take part in the Australian Red Cross Blood Service's annual Health Services Blood Challenge.

SCHHS made it to 1st place nationally in 2018, giving 218 donations - saving up to 654 lives.

Jan English, Clinical Nurse Consultant for Transfusion and Blood Management said she is hopeful we can defend the title during this years' challenge.

"We have had an outstanding response by SCHHS staff signing up for a total of 179 donations so far, and our target is 225 donations which is a great result for the Australian Red Cross Blood Service."

SCHHS is currently in first place in Queensland, and second nationally.

Every year, on **14 June**, countries around the world celebrate **World Blood Donor Day**.

Jan said: "Australians need 25,000 blood donations every single week. These donations help patients suffering from life threatening conditions live longer with a higher quality of life. They support surgical procedures. They also have an essential role in maternal and child care and during emergency response."

"One blood donation has the potential to save 3 lives."

Jan said World Blood Donor Day, and the challenge, enabled the "Blood Donation Community" to help others and raise awareness about the important, life-saving difference blood donations make.

The SCHHS has strong ties with Team Adem and the Crosby family, who have joined forces with Red25 (Australian red Cross Blood Services Group Donation Program).

To book an appointment to donate blood visit www.donateblood.com.au or phone 13 14 95.

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How many lives are saved by blood donations? Find out more about the current 2019 donation tally on <http://www.donateblood.com.au/page/team-adem> or visit www.donateblood.com.au for more information.

Sunshine Coast

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MEDIA OPPORTUNITY

Janine English, Transfusion Clinical Nurse Consultant SCHHS is available for interviews on request.

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