

Double Red Cell  
donors help two  
hospital patients  
with one donation.  
Your time is  
valuable. Make  
your donation count  
for you and the  
patients who rely  
on your help.

# Double Red Cell Donation

It's Achievement.  
It's Service.  
It's Community.  
**It's being a Blood Donor.**



**Contact Us**  
800.287.4903  
[www.lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://www.lifeservebloodcenter.org)



## Michelle Mericle

Who could predict that a routine tonsillectomy would turn into a medical crisis? Nine days following general

surgery, Michelle experienced complications that almost ended her life. Instead of recuperating from her tonsillectomy with ice cream desserts and popsicles, Michelle was given emergency resuscitative measures, including several transfusions of O negative blood, to help save her life.

“We have a happy, healthy daughter who loves life. If it weren’t for the kindness of blood donors, Michelle might not be with us today. We can’t thank those donors enough for giving us the gift of life.” – Jeff & Tiffini Mericle



RECIPIENT

## What is Double Red Cell donation?

Double Red Cell donation is an automated donation procedure that allows one blood donor to give two units of red blood cells at one time. During the donation, the automated machine separates components in the blood, retains only the red blood cells and returns the remaining blood components, plus a saline solution, to the donor.

## What is the difference between Whole Blood and Double Red Cell donations?

A Double Red Cell donation takes about 15 - 20 minutes longer than a Whole Blood donation and results in two units of red blood cells being collected. This type of donation uses a smaller needle than a Whole Blood donation and since only red blood cells are being removed during this process, donors leave LifeServe Blood Center more hydrated because the volume of the donated blood is replaced with a saline solution.

## Who can give a Double Red Cell donation?

- Donors who meet the general blood donor eligibility requirements, are at least 16 years of age or older (with a signed Parental/Guardian Permission Form) and are in good general health.
- Donors who have a hematocrit level (percent of red cells) of at least 40 percent (whole blood donor hematocrit level must be 38 percent).
- Male donors who are at least 5’1” tall and weigh 130 pounds or more.
- Female donors who are at least 5’3” tall and weigh 150 pounds or more.

## How often can someone make a Double Red Cell Donation?

Donors are eligible to donate 112 days after making a Double Red Cell Donation. Whole Blood donors must wait 56 days between donations.

## Is the procedure dangerous?

No! Like Whole Blood donations, there is no risk of contracting any disease by donating red blood cells. Each donation is performed using a sterile, disposable kit. Each disposable kit is only used for only one donor and then discarded following the donation procedure.

## Why give Double Red Cell donation?

Since the Double Red Cell donation procedure yields two units of red blood cells, donors can help two hospital patients with just one donation. Donors save time by donating the same amount of red blood cells in one visit, normally collected in two visits! Additionally, this type of donation helps LifeServe Blood Center collect specific blood types to meet the needs of local hospital patients.

## Questions?

Call LifeServe Blood Center at **800.287.4903** or email your questions to **blooddonor@lifeservebloodcenter.org**.

