

## Address for World Blood Donor Day

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St. Lucia joins countries around the world as we recognize World Blood Donor Day (WBDD) on June 14 under the theme; ‘Safe Blood Saves Lives’ with the slogan ‘Give Blood and make the world a Healthier Place.’ The need for safe blood is universal. Blood transfusions do not discriminate against race, religion, or social status a decision to donate blood, is a decision to save a life. The occasion serves to:

- ✚ Thank our voluntary, unpaid blood donors for their life-saving gift of blood.
- ✚ Inspire persons who have never donated to start donating.
- ✚ Highlight and encourage the need for committed, year-round blood donations as a means of creating a strong yet sustainable national blood supply that is sufficient to meet the needs of all patients requiring a transfusion.

The Covid-19 pandemic has placed a greater strain on the available blood supply thus blood donations are needed now more than ever. Giving Blood is an act of solidarity and Covid-19 does not prevent us from doing our part. **World Blood Donor Day is more than JUST A day, it is a celebration of life by giving the gift of life!**