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## PRESS RELEASE

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# SHAB-sponsored blood drive exceeds goals

AMHERST, Mass. – Donors packed an American Red Cross mobile blood donation center on the UMass Amherst campus last week, as the Student Health Advisory Board (SHAB) at University Health Services hosted its first-ever blood drive.

The April 18 event attracted donors from throughout the campus community. According to Red Cross recruitment representative Jeff DeVergilio, the result was 35 satisfactory units, which will ultimately generate up to 105 blood products. "We had to turn many away because of time. We hope donors will come to future drives on campus," DeVergilio said.

"People really stepped up to the plate and did a terrific job. It was great to see how many people were willing to volunteer," said SHAB member and nursing student Sarah Porcelli, who coordinated the drive. Porcelli's sentiments were echoed by group advisor Tom Schiff, Ed.D., who noted "This was the first time we've done a drive, but based on the response, it won't be the last."

SHAB is the officially recognized voice of the student body at UHS. Members provide input into programs, staff recruitment, the Student Health Trust Fund and supplemental health benefits program, and raise awareness of health issues. Committees offer opportunities to focus on special topics including consumer feedback, transportation and marketing.

For information on SHAB and upcoming events, call UHS Health Education, 577-5181.