



DP WORLD DONATES MOBILE BLOOD DONATION BUS TO DHA'S BLOOD DONATION CENTRE.

United Arab Emirates, Dubai, December 26, 2013: Dubai Health Authority (DHA) and DP World, UAE Region signed today a memorandum of understanding (MoU) under which DP World, UAE Region donated AED 1,790,000 towards a fully-equipped mobile blood donation bus that will be used by the Dubai Blood Donation Centre to collect blood during its mobile blood collection campaigns.

The agreement was signed today at the DHA headquarters by His Excellency Engineer Essa Al Madoor, Director-General of Dubai Health Authority and Mohammed Al Muallem, Senior Vice President and Managing Director, DP World, UAE Region.

Al Madoor praised this humanitarian initiative and said that this partnership symbolises true collaboration between the government entities in the Emirate. He expressed his appreciation for entities such as DP World that undertake such initiatives which are aimed for the benefit of the community.

He said such contributions help support the Authority's healthcare expansion plans which are aimed to keep pace with the growing population.

Mohammed Al Muallem, Senior Vice President and Managing Director, DP World, UAE Region, said: "DP World, UAE Region is proud to support Dubai Health Authority in their continuous efforts to increase public awareness on the need to donate blood to those who need it. The Dubai Blood Donation Centre is doing a commendable job to ensure that a safe and adequate supply of blood is collected to meet the needs of hospitals in Dubai. This partnership to acquire a new mobile blood donation unit is part of DP World's commitment to the community and we hope it will further boost DHA's noble work."

Dr Laila Al Shaer, Director of the Dubai Blood Donation Centre, highlighted the importance of this donation, which will directly help increase the number of blood collected through mobile blood donation campaigns.

She said the addition of this state-of-the-art bus will help in collecting an additional 70 to 80 units of blood per day.

Al Shaer said a mobile blood donation bus helps the Centre reach out to different sections of society interested in blood donation and it is convenient for donors.

She said the Centre already has one mobile blood collection bus which was sponsored by Al Baraha Quran Recitation Centre in 2011.

Al Shaer said the mobile unit helped the Centre double the blood collection at every drive. "Now, with this additional mobile bus, we are confident that we will be able to collect additional units of blood, which will directly benefit those in need of blood, especially Thalassemia patients," she said.

Al Shaer highlighted that the blood donation Centre is the central blood donation centre for the Emirate of Dubai. It supplies blood and blood products to all private and governmental hospitals in the Emirate of Dubai, including over 30 private and government hospitals in Dubai.

The DBDC blood collection amounts to 50% of the total blood collected in the UAE. Forty-two per cent of this blood is used for thalassemia patients and 27 per cent is used for trauma patients.

For 27 years, Dubai Blood Donation Centre has been committed to serving the needs of their local communities by saving lives through voluntary, unpaid donation. Donor recruitment and blood collection is conducted through Blood Donation Camps in and outside the Centre. From January to December 2013, the Centre collected 42,000 units of blood.

The Centre undertakes the responsibility of ensuring safe blood for thousands of people who receive life-saving blood transfusions every year.

Al Shaer said: "At the Centre, we carry out more than 300 campaigns in a year to donate blood and we visit various governmental organisations, private sector groups etc."

Al Shaer said the mobile blood donation unit is a state-of-the-art bus which has four couches in the waiting area and four beds. Moreover the unit has a separate room to check the BP, cholesterol and haemoglobin levels of donors prior to any donation.

The Blood Donation Centre conducts blood donation drives every day, except Saturdays. Therefore, on an average the DBDC conducts about 25 campaigns every month. Sometimes the DBDC conducts two campaigns a day. Yearly, the DBDC conducts on an average about 300 campaigns. DBDC cooperates with over 250 private and government institutions for blood donations. The minimum number of donors at a camp is 50 and the maximum is 200.

The DHA Blood Donation Centre is located in the premises of Al Wasl Hospital and individuals interested in donating blood may contact the centre at 04 2193221 or alternately they may contact the DHA toll free number 800 342.

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