



Hawai'i Cord Blood Bank

Ringling in the New Year....Happy 2020!

Dear Friends,

As another year comes to a close, we would like to express our gratitude for the blessings 2019 has brought us. We have watched with great excitement, our umbilical cord blood transplant numbers grow steadily with each passing year. The 249 transplants we have to-date serves as a clear reminder of the importance of our mission to save lives. Every transplant gives someone a second chance at life and for their families and friends, hope for the future. We often forget the incredible and far reaching impact of what we do here at the Hawaii Cord Blood Bank and so we would like to pause and acknowledge the amazing work that we have accomplished together. Here are a few highlights of this past year!

Big and Banked Winners 2018

As you may know, we like to challenge our cord blood collectors with a yearly contest to see who can collect the largest cord blood unit. The idea behind this competition is simple, the larger the cord blood unit collected, the greater the chance of it getting banked and made available for transplant. Earlier this year we recognized our 2018 winners and again, our doctors and nurses rose to the challenge!

The 2018 winner of the Big and Banked contest is a fierce competitor and repeat winner....Dr. Eesha Bhattacharyya! Congratulations to Dr. Bhattacharyya along with nurses, Lydia Mutch and Caron Badis who collected a 307 gram unit at Queen's Medical Center. To all of our winners, a job well done!

1st place: 307 grams
Dr. Eesha Bhattacharyya, Lydia Mutch, RN & Caron Badis, RN
Queen's Medical Center

2nd place: 282 grams
Dr. Simon Chang, Ester Park, RN & Jamie Nishimoto, RN
Kapiolani Medical Center for Women and Children

3rd place (tied): 229 grams
Dr. Amanda Lawry, Olivia Santiago, RN & Rachel Lee, RN
Kaiser Permanente

3rd place (tied): 229 grams
Dr. Heather Awaya, Danielle England, RN & Kim Oxiles, RN
Adventist Health Castle

4th place: 212 grams
Dr. Amanda Haney, Christine Clark, RN & Carolyn Rice, RN
Tripler Army Medical Center



From left: Dr. Eesha Bhattacharyya with Heather Postema & Gavin Ha

Cord Blood Treatment for Sickle Cell Anemia

Sickle cell anemia is an inherited and debilitating form of anemia where the red blood cells contort into a sickle shape. The cells die early, leaving a shortage of healthy red blood cells and can block blood flow causing pain. Normally, healthy red blood cells are flexible and round, moving easily through the blood vessels. Those diagnosed with sickle cell anemia face chronic symptoms such as infections, pain, and fatigue. The only treatments available are medication, blood transfusions, and bone-marrow or cord blood transplants.

Sickle Cell Disease:

- Affects approximately 100,000 Americans
- Occurs among about 1 out of every 365 Black or African-American births
- Occurs among about 1 out of every 16,300 Hispanic-American births
- About 1 in 13 Black or African-American babies is born with sickle cell trait (SCT).

CDC Sickle Cell data and statistics (US)

Approximately 100,000 people in the United States have sickle cell disease, most of them are African-Americans. Unfortunately, the supply for this ethnic group in the National Marrow Donor Program is the lowest among all ethnic groups in the nation. To help increase this supply, the Hawaii Cord Blood Bank has been working with all of our hospitals to raise awareness and increase cord blood collections for the Black/African American community. As transplants are becoming a more common practice for treating sickle cell anemia, we have been focused on collecting as many units as possible to provide options for those individuals who suffer from sickle cell anemia.

Spotlight on Tripler Army Medical Center

In August of 2000, the Hawaii Cord Blood Bank teamed up with the Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) to become the very first military hospital in the U.S. to have a public cord blood program. Since then, the number of military hospitals collecting cord blood has fluctuated and today, TAMC is just one of only two remaining military hospitals who provide this valuable service to the Armed Forces.

The Hawaii Cord Blood Bank is grateful for the close relationship that has been cultivated with TAMC over the years and the support of our military families and medical professionals has never been greater. Even despite the ever-rotating personnel of active duty military, the generosity and dedication of these doctors and nurses who support the cord blood program remains steadfast. We are very proud of the history we have created with the TAMC and deeply appreciate the service of the military to our country and local community.



The HCBB staff at the TAMC Baby Expo on April 13, 2019

Thank you to our HCBB Donors!

We are here because of our donors and would like to thank the many individuals as well as corporate and non-profit organizations who have generously supported us.

41th Annual Visitor Industry Charity Walk - The 41st Annual Visitor Industry Charity Walk “A Tradition of Giving” was a record breaking success and the Hawaii Cord Blood was honored to receive a grant from this year’s campaign. The Charity Walk collected \$2.66 million statewide and the funds raised went to support the many charitable organizations in Hawaii. Some of our staff participated in the walk and had a really great time! We thank everyone for donating in support of the Charity Walk and Hawaii Cord Blood Bank.



HCBB staff and family members at the 2019 Visitor Industry Charity Walk

Aloha United Way
HCBB was chosen again to be an Aloha United Way Partner Agency! This has enabled AUW donations to be allocated directly to the Hawai'i Cord Blood Bank. We are honored to be included in their fundraising campaign.

Friends of Hawai'i Charities - The Hawai'i Cord Blood Bank was fortunate to participate in the 2018-2019 Friends of Hawai'i Charities Program, an annual fundraising event for local charities. Due to your generous contributions, we received a bonus percentage match donation for the support of our program. In addition, HCBB was also honored with an \$8,000 grant from the Aloha for Hawai'i Charities fundraising campaign. Thank you all for your support and efforts to make this year's fundraising campaign a success!

The Friends of Hawai'i Charities is the event host of the Sony Open in Hawai'i and was formed for the purpose of raising funds for Hawai'i charities. In partnership with The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Inc., they have been able to distribute \$19 million over the years to program like ours.

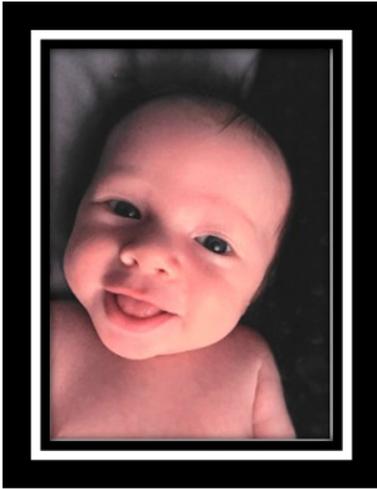
We are truly grateful for organizations like the Friends of Hawai'i Charities who help to make our mission of giving the gift of life a second time possible.

The support we have received during the year from so many of you has been amazing and we humbly thank you for your valuable contribution of time and generous donations. We would like to send a special mahalo to Dr. Thomas Kosasa and Mr. Nathan Yoshizaki for their continued support of the Hawaii Cord Blood Bank. Last but not least, we would like to thank our Board of Directors for their expertise and guidance that allows us to operate at our very best!



Our Littlest Heros!

We are so thankful for our beautiful babies and their families!





HCBB Board of Directors and Staff



HCBB Board of Directors

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It is truly an exciting time for cord blood and we are very excited to see the advances in technology and treatments that will emerge in this new decade. We would not be able to succeed in our mission without you. Thank you for supporting us this past year and as we move forward to 2020. Wishing you and your family a very happy and prosperous New Year!

Mahalo and Aloha,

Your friends at the Hawai'i Cord Blood Bank
Dr. Wada, Linda, Lisa, Lynette and Allison

