

## For Patients and Families

### Directed Donation Process

#### What is a Directed Donation?

- A directed donation is when a patient or patient's guardian chooses someone they know to donate blood products for the patient's transfusion.

#### Who can provide a directed donation?

- Directed donors must have a blood type that is compatible with the patient's blood.
- Directed donors must be healthy and feeling well to give blood.
- Donations from a father to the mother of his children are not allowed due to risk to future pregnancies.

#### How can I become a directed donor?

- The patient's doctor must submit a request to the Red Cross for a special collection at **least 10 working days** before the blood is needed.
- Red Cross Staff will contact you and review your medical history to determine if donation is safe for you.
- You will be scheduled for a donation appointment where your blood will be collected.
- Appointments must be made **at least 3 days before** the collection date

#### What happens after the directed donation?

- Directed donor blood undergoes the same testing as blood from regular volunteer donors, including infectious disease tests such as HIV and Hepatitis C Virus.
- The directed donation will be tagged by Red Cross Staff with the intended recipient's name and will be shipped to the CHOP Blood Bank where it will be stored until transfusion is needed.