ANCHORAGE, AK – The Blood Bank of Alaska announced today that it has received a $1 million dollar gift from ConocoPhillips to help build a new blood bank for Alaskans. The company intends to contribute an additional $1 million each in 2015 and 2016, subject to future approvals by the company leadership.

“ConocoPhillips is a longtime community supporter of Blood Bank of Alaska. We are extremely thankful for its support of this new project and our mission,” said Robert Scanlon, CEO of Blood Bank of Alaska. “We look forward to continuing this partnership with ConocoPhillips through our annual blood drives in order to save lives across the state in the years to come.” Chairman of the Board Tim Benintendi echoed this sentiment, “We could not be more appreciative of the significant role ConocoPhillips is playing to ensure Alaskans have a safe and secure source of blood products for decades to come. One could not find a better example of good corporate citizenry than that manifested by ConocoPhillips.”

Pictured: Robert Scanlon, CEO Blood Bank of Alaska; Mary Gibbs, Director of Philanthropy & Community Services ConocoPhillips; Tim Benintendi, Chairman of the Board Blood Bank of Alaska; Sophie Minich, President/CEO CIRI (Capital Campaign Co-Chair Blood Bank of Alaska); Trond-Erik Johansen, President ConocoPhillips Alaska; Ryan York, Vice President Finance BBNC (Capital Campaign Co-Chair Blood Bank of Alaska)
The new Blood Bank building will allow for the consolidation of operational support staff under one roof, provide space to expand new services statewide, and keep patients closer to home during medical treatment. It is located in Anchorage at the northeast corner of Airport Heights Drive and DeBarr Road. Construction officially began in June of 2014 and completion is currently scheduled for winter of 2015.

“ConocoPhillips is committed to Alaska and to investing in its communities,” said Trond-Erik Johansen, president of ConocoPhillips Alaska. “The Blood Bank provides a lifesaving service throughout the state and we are glad to be a part of the effort to improve the service it provides to Alaskans. It is our honor to be able to participate in such a significant fashion to the success of this organization.”

It is estimated that one out of every three Alaskans, or one of their close family members, will require the services of the Blood Bank of Alaska at one point in their lives. This new facility will ensure that all of the services are available at any time, under any circumstance, to all Alaskans. ConocoPhillips also supports Blood Bank of Alaska by hosting numerous blood drives at its workplace, and employees have provided more than 1,200 units of life-saving blood with the potential to help as many as 3,500 Alaska patients in need.

Co-Chairs of the Capital Campaign, Sophie Minich, President and CEO of CIRI, and Ryan York, Vice President of Finance at Bristol Bay Native Corporation and BBA Board Member, shared their gratitude to ConocoPhillips for this leadership gift. “Philanthropy and community support are a critical component to the overall success of this project and we are grateful to ConocoPhillips for its leadership in our campaign,” said Sophie Minich. Ryan York added, “This significant gift from ConocoPhillips provides an important endorsement of the value of a true public/private partnership for this project. It is our hope that ConocoPhillips’ giving will inspire others to join in supporting the new Blood Bank of Alaska facility.”

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**About the Blood Bank Building**

The new building project first became an initiative for Blood Bank of Alaska in 2008 when an infrastructure analysis of the current headquarters located at 4000 Laurel Street in Anchorage found that it was operating beyond capacity and not sustainable. As a vital part of the health care system for the state, Blood Bank of Alaska is a strategic part of Alaska’s emergency response infrastructure. It works actively with other Alaska emergency preparedness entities to ensure a safe blood supply in the event of a natural disaster or a man-made emergency. For more than fifty years they have provided blood to Alaskans during earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and normal daily incidents that may require blood, even during air transportation interruptions. The Blood Bank of Alaska relies on the generosity of volunteer blood donors and community members to provide life-saving blood for patients in their time of need.
The Blood Bank of Alaska is currently in the midst of a $6.4 million capital campaign to provide the philanthropic support needed for the project while the State of Alaska has already provided tremendous support in funding this critical facility for the people of Alaska.

About Blood Bank of Alaska, Inc.
Since 1962, Blood Bank of Alaska has provided blood and blood products to hospitals across the state of Alaska. Blood Bank of Alaska’s 100 staff operate out of three centers located in Fairbanks and Anchorage and host hundreds of mobile drives around the state. Blood Bank of Alaska and its donors are dedicated to providing high quality blood products and related laboratory services while meeting changing healthcare needs. BBA currently services 21 hospitals across the state, including all military hospitals and Alaska Native hospitals.

About ConocoPhillips Alaska
ConocoPhillips has been leading the search for energy in Alaska for more than 50 years. We are committed to responsibly developing Alaska’s resources, providing economic opportunity for Alaskans, operating at the highest safety standards and being good stewards of our community. For more information, visit www.conocophillipsalaska.com.

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