JDIMAS
Jurnal Pengabdian Masyarakat
https://ejournal.unikama.ac.id/index.php/jdimas
ISSN: 3048-183X | Vol. 4, No. 1, 2026 | pp. 7–12

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Blood Donation on the 16th Anniversary of KH Putra Midwifery Academy

Himatul Khoeroh[1], Aiva Ismatul Millah[2], Dian Lutfiana[3], Hanifah Roekhannisa[4]*, Sheilla Sakila Anantasya[5]

[1,2,3,4,5]Akademi Kebidanan KH Putra, Indonesia
[4]roekhannisahanifah@gmail.com
*Corresponding Author

ARTICLE HISTORY

Received:
January 16, 2026

Revised:
April 22, 2026

Published:
June 30, 2026

Keywords:
Blood donation; Community service; Healath; PMI; Participation

ABSTRACT

Blood donation is a real form of social concern that plays an important role in saving lives and supporting the availability of blood supplies in health facilities. This community service activity aimed to increase voluntary blood donor participation within the midwifery academy environment in celebration of the 16th Dies Natalis of Akbid KH Putra and to strengthen collaboration with the Blood Transfusion Unit of PMI Brebes. The method was carried out by disseminating donation information through social media and official invitations, followed by several implementation stages including registration, medical screening, blood collection, and recovery. Data were collected using attendance lists, donor forms, and direct observation, and were analyzed descriptively. The results showed good participant involvement and smooth implementation according to PMI operational standards. Participants received health screening, education on the benefits of blood donation, and post-donation supplements. The evaluation indicated that educational institutions are effective settings for increasing awareness and forming regular donors. This program is recommended to be conducted periodically as a real contribution to supporting blood availability in PMI.

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H. Khoeroh, A. I. Millah, D. Lutfiana, H. Roekhannisa, and S. S. Anantasya, "Donor darah dalam rangka Dies Natalis Akademi Kebidanan KH Putra," *JDIMAS: Jurnal Pengabdian Masyarakat*, vol. 4, no. 1, pp. 7–12, 2026, doi: 10.21067/jdimas.v4i1.13706.

1. INTRODUCTION

Caring for others is a noble value that demonstrates humanity and social solidarity in community interactions. In various conditions, especially during health crises or disasters, the demand for blood is extremely urgent. This is where concrete actions such as blood donation become vital, serving not only as a display of empathy but also as a direct contribution to saving lives. Blood is an essential component of the human body that cannot be replaced by any other substance. For the body to function properly, the elements regulating blood flow are indispensable. Blood plays a critical role in transporting nutrients

and oxygen throughout the body, as well as eliminating metabolic waste and carbon dioxide. Furthermore, blood acts as a defense mechanism protecting the body against viruses and microorganisms that can cause serious health issues [1].

Blood donation is a simple, safe, and time-efficient activity that offers significant benefits to those in need. A single unit of blood can save up to three lives because it can be separated into various components, such as red blood cells, plasma, and platelets [2]. Thus, every donor directly assumes the role of a lifesaver. Blood donation is a voluntary process in which an individual donates a portion of their blood to be stored in a blood bank for future transfusion needs. This activity not only saves lives but also strengthens human connection and social solidarity. Across the globe, blood donation stands as one of the most tangible expressions of care for others [3].

Donating blood also yields direct advantages for the donors themselves. From a health perspective, regular blood donation supports cardiovascular health, reduces excess iron stored in the body, and stimulates the production of new blood cells. Additionally, it enhances empathy and social responsibility, solidifies bonds among community members, and fosters a spirit of mutual cooperation. Through blood donation, students, faculty, and staff are invited not just to care passively, but to actively participate in humanitarian endeavors. This action serves as an educational medium and moral driver to share with those in need regardless of their background, ethnicity, religion, or social status, which can be effectively facilitated through collaboration between educational institutions and the Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) [4].

The Blood Transfusion Unit (UTD), commonly known as PMI, represents a crucial gateway to improving public healthcare services. Achieving optimal blood quality, satisfactory service delivery, as well as speed and accuracy in service provision are imperative to ensuring PMI fulfills its humanitarian mission effectively. Moreover, accessible information regarding blood stock availability at UTD PMI is essential so the public can easily track down emergency blood supplies via online platforms, as blood shortages can lead to preventable loss of life [5].

Previous studies have highlighted the importance of knowledge, attitudes, and awareness in encouraging voluntary blood donation among university students. Aniebo et al. [6] emphasized the need for educational campaigns to improve students' understanding and participation in blood donation. Similarly, Md Yusof et al. [7] identified a relationship between awareness, attitudes, and blood donation practices among undergraduate students. These findings support the relevance of educational institutions as settings for promoting voluntary blood donation.

Sustaining voluntary blood donation also requires an understanding of the factors influencing donor participation. Mussema et al. [8] investigated knowledge, attitudes, practices, and associated factors among university students, highlighting the importance of understanding potential donors' characteristics. This perspective is relevant to organizing blood donation activities that encourage broader participation within academic communities.

Along with population growth, the demand for blood reserves continues to rise. However, imbalances between supply and demand frequently occur at several Blood Transfusion Units, resulting in critical shortages. This shortage is primarily driven by low participation rates among voluntary blood donors who donate regularly. In Indonesia, the number of voluntary blood donors stands at only six per 1,000 residents. This rate is lower than in Thailand (13 per 1,000) and Malaysia (10 per 1,000). Meanwhile, Singapore registers 24 voluntary donors per 1,000 residents, and Japan records a significantly higher rate of 68 donors per 1,000 residents. Nevertheless, the fundamental need for blood remains comparable across all countries [9].

2. IMPLEMENTATION METHODS

The implementation approach involved disseminating blood donation drive announcements through social media platforms. This community service was organized in celebration of the 16th Anniversary (Dies Natalis) of Akbid KH Putra on Saturday, September 27, 2025, located at the Laboratory Room of Akbid KH Putra. All required equipment including promotional materials, registration administrative tools, health screening devices, blood transfusion kits, donor cots, as well as refreshments and supplements for donors were fully prepared.

The preparation phase included setting up the venue, drafting and submitting a formal collaboration proposal to UTD PMI Brebes Regency, and designing banners and promotional media for social media distribution. The target audience comprised students, lecturers, and staff of Akbid KH Putra, as well as employees of Al-Hikmah 1. To ensure optimal turnout, socialization was conducted via direct announcements and formal invitation letters distributed to all target groups. Data collection instruments consisting of attendance sheets, donor forms, and observation logs were finalized at this stage, with data analyzed descriptively to meet project requirements without complex statistical modeling.

The blood donation drive followed a structured workflow. Upon arrival, participants registered and filled out screening forms before undergoing health evaluations by the medical team from PMI Brebes Regency to determine eligibility. Eligible participants then proceeded to the blood collection station operating under standard PMI procedures. Following transfusion, donors were guided to a recovery area for short-term rest, where they received blood-booster supplements and snacks to help regain stamina.

After the event concluded, the community service team conducted a comprehensive evaluation to assess overall execution, workflow effectiveness, and participant turnout. This evaluation serves as a benchmark for future iterations, aiming to optimize similar drives as part of the institution's ongoing commitment to community welfare and blood supply sustainability at UTD PMI Brebes Regency.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Implementation Results and Evaluation

The blood donation drive held during the 16th Dies Natalis of Akbid KH Putra achieved favorable outcomes in terms of participant turnout and operational flow. The event involved close coordination with the Blood Transfusion Unit (UTD) of the Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) Brebes Regency. Implementation included social media outreach, official invitations, and a standardized operational flow: registration, health screening by PMI medical personnel, blood collection per PMI standards, and a brief recovery phase. Participants not only donated blood but also received direct benefits, including free health check-ups, education on blood donation benefits, and post-donation recovery supplements (blood-booster medication and snacks).

3.2 Discussion

The positive results from this activity align with findings from a voluntary blood donation drive at Universitas Jambi by M. Ilhamdi et al. [1], which highlights blood donation as a voluntary act of giving blood for transfusion to patients in need. Similarly, A. Nur and E. Fiskia [6] at Universitas Khairun emphasize that voluntary blood donation is vital for maintaining blood stock availability. Given the vital function of blood in human health,

maintaining steady stock levels is essential. This event encouraged the campus community to contribute directly toward saving lives through a simple yet impactful action. Students, lecturers, and staff at Akbid KH Putra were motivated to take an active role in life-saving efforts. The positive turnout at Akbid KH Putra reinforces the idea that educational institutions serve as effective environments for cultivating civic awareness and an altruistic spirit among young people and academic communities. This observation can be discussed in relation to Zhao et al. [10], who examined the gap between positive attitudes toward blood donation and actual donation behavior among university students. Their findings suggest that positive attitudes do not necessarily translate into donation practices. In the present program, collaboration with PMI provided participants with an accessible opportunity to donate blood. However, changes in participants' knowledge, attitudes, and future donation behavior were not specifically measured. Event evaluations concluded that institutional blood donation drives effectively build awareness and hold strong potential for establishing a regular donor base. Regular execution of this program is recommended to help bridge the frequent supply deficits experienced at UTD PMI.



Figure 1. Health screening check-up.



Figure 2. Blood donation screening/procedure.

4. CONCLUSION

The blood donation activity held in celebration of the 16th Anniversary of Akbid KH Putra ran smoothly and received positive engagement from participants. The enthusiasm shown by students, lecturers, staff, and Al-Hikmah 1 employees demonstrates that blood donation drives are effective means to boost social awareness and civic responsibility. Moving forward, it is hoped that such initiatives can be held periodically to expand the pool of new donors, supporting stock stability at UTD PMI Brebes Regency and developing a sustainable base of active voluntary donors.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We express our gratitude to the Student Affairs Department of KH Putra Midwifery Academy Brebes for providing the venue. We also extend our appreciation to UTD-PMI Brebes Regency for conducting the medical procedures on campus, and special thanks to all donors who generously gave their blood to help others.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Himatul Khoeroh: Conceptualization, Methodology, Project Administration, Writing Original Draft. Aiva Ismatul Millah: Writing - Review & Editing, Resources, Investigation. Dian Lutfiana: Data Curation, Formal Analysis, Investigation. Hanifah Roekhannisa: Visualization, Validation, Resources. Sheilla Sakila Anantasya: Supervision, Validation, Writing – Review & Editing.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article. No potential conflicts of interest, financial or otherwise, were reported by the authors.

DECLARATION OF AI USE

During the preparation of this work, the authors used AI tools solely to assist with language translation, grammar refinement, and formatting improvements. The underlying concepts, community service activities, data collection, analysis, and conclusions were entirely conducted and developed by the authors. The authors have thoroughly reviewed and edited the content as necessary and take full responsibility for the final content of the published article.

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