

South Carolina Chapter – Community Challenge 2006

**“Sharing the Gift of Life”**

The South Carolina Chapter (SCALA) partnered with the American Red Cross and The Blood Connection to hold a state wide blood drive with donation sites in three major cities – Greenville, Columbia and Charleston. The state wide blood drive was held on Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup> in the designated cities with a total of 51 pints collected. The event was advertised during September and October in the local communities, within member firms and in the media.

A representative from the American Red Cross was invited to attend the Chapter’s Mini-Conference in September. SCALA provided a vendor booth at no charge and arranged for the representative to speak during the Conference about the need for blood donations and other ways to support the American Red Cross.

In the Greenville area, the need was more personal since the son of an attorney in a SCALA member’s firm is fighting non-operable brain tumors and his condition has required him to receive several transfusions of blood or platelets. The member’s firm supported the ALA Community challenge by encouraging staff members to donate blood or platelets during office hours without using annual leave (donating platelets usually takes 2.5 hours).

Our participation in this community challenge has significantly increased the awareness among participating firms and the local communities regarding the critical need for blood and platelet donations. We are hopeful that participants will continue to give the gift of life!

Brenda L. Stewart  
President  
South Carolina Association of Legal Administrators