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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bellevue Joins with Local Lions Clubs and LifeSouth Community Blood Center for Health Screening Day and Blood Drive on March 19th with Free Glucose and Vision Screenings for All Ages at the Bellevue Community Center

Bellevue, FL – The City of Bellevue is excited to announce a Health Screening Day on March 19, 2025, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Bellevue Community Center. This event is open to both adults and children and offers essential health screenings and educational resources, all free of charge.

The event features vision screenings provided by the Eastport Lions Club and blood glucose screenings conducted by the Orange Blossom Gardens Lions Club of Lady Lake. Attendees will also have access to informational materials on diabetes awareness and management, vision services, and other vital health topics.

LifeSouth Community Blood Center Blood Drive

In addition to the screenings, LifeSouth Community Blood Center will be hosting a blood drive throughout the day. Blood donations are vital to saving lives, as they provide life-saving resources for surgeries, trauma care, cancer treatments, and other medical emergencies. Just one donation can save up to three lives. "Giving blood is one of the simplest and most impactful ways to give back to your community," shared a LifeSouth representative. "Your generosity can mean the difference between life and death for someone in need." All eligible donors are encouraged to participate and make a meaningful contribution to this critical cause.

Why Blood Glucose Screenings Matter

Blood glucose screenings are a crucial tool in identifying early signs of diabetes, a condition that affects millions of Americans. Undiagnosed or poorly managed diabetes can lead to severe complications such as heart disease, kidney damage, nerve issues, and even blindness. Early detection through simple screenings empowers individuals to take control of their health and seek medical advice when needed.

"Diabetes is often called a silent condition because many people don't realize they have it until complications arise," explained Barbara Crewell, President of the Orange Blossom Gardens Lions Club. "This is why screenings like these are so important—they can save lives. We're proud to partner with the City of Bellevue to offer this service to the community and provide resources to help people manage their health."

The Importance of Vision Screenings

Vision health is another critical aspect of overall well-being, and early detection of vision issues can prevent long-term complications. Routine screenings can uncover problems such as glaucoma, cataracts, or refractive errors, which are often treatable when addressed early. Vision screenings are especially important for children, as undiagnosed vision problems can impact their learning and development.

"As Lions, we've made it our mission to fight preventable blindness and improve access to vision care," added Eastport Lion Chris Culberson. "Vision screenings can make a world of difference, particularly for children who may not yet realize they have a problem. We're excited to bring this resource to Bellevue."

Building a Healthier Community

The Health Screening Day is about more than just tests—it's about empowering individuals with the knowledge and tools to lead healthier lives. In addition to screenings, attendees will receive informational materials about diabetes prevention, vision care, and general wellness practices.

Robert Vass, Events and Promotions Manager for the City of Bellevue, highlighted the broader impact of the event: "This Health Screening Day is about creating a healthier, stronger community. Many people don't have regular access to health screenings, which can lead to undiagnosed conditions and unnecessary suffering. By partnering with the Lions Clubs, we're bringing these critical services directly to our residents in a convenient, supportive environment. I encourage everyone to attend—your health is worth it. And while you're here, donate blood with our friends at LifeSouth and make a truly positive impact on the life of another in need."

Event Details:

- **What:** Health Screening Day
- **When:** March 19, 2025, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- **Where:** Bellevue Community Center
- **Cost:** Free of Charge
- **Screenings Provided:** Vision and blood glucose

Screenings will be conducted on a first-come, first-served basis, and no appointments are necessary.