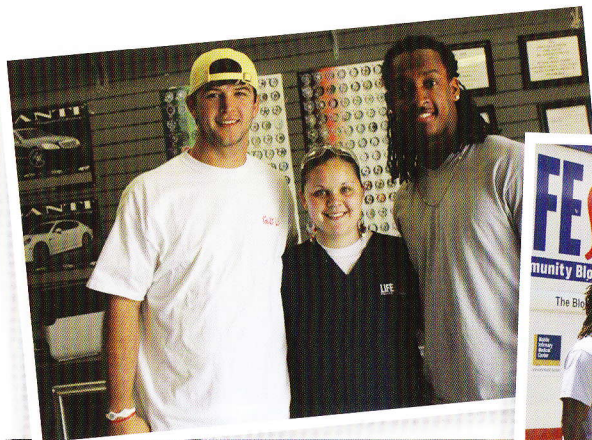




*AJ McCarron, Donor Specialist  
Elizabeth Godwin, and Robert Lester*



## LifeSouth Connects Donors to Patients

Anyone who's ever lived in Alabama can attest to its unpredictable weather. No one could have been prepared, however, for the tornadoes that ripped through the state in April. The largest tornado outbreak in United States history occurred from April 25-28, 2011. At least 234 people were killed in Alabama, with Tuscaloosa receiving the most extensive damage. Residents and businesses alike rallied to offer support and supplies for the victims. One local business, LifeSouth Community Blood Centers, showed its support by hosting two blood drives in the Mobile area.

The first drive was held Friday, April 29, at 97.5 WABB on Springhill Avenue. Locals came out to donate blood and drop off supplies for those affected by the tornadoes. The second dedicated drive was at Hot Wheelz on Airport Boulevard Saturday, April 30. Alabama Crimson Tide football players AJ McCarron and Robert Lester were present to show support as well as chat with donors. Both efforts were a success. Close to 400 units from the donor centers and drives combined were collected for Tuscaloosa aid.

LifeSouth Community Blood Centers is a 501(c)3, nonprofit community blood supplier for hospitals in Florida, Georgia, and Alabama. Donations collected at LifeSouth are distributed directly into the community, including DCH Regional Medical Center, Tuscaloosa's local hospital. LifeSouth provides blood and platelets for 10 hospitals in Mobile and Baldwin counties, and at least 100 units a day are needed to maintain the necessary blood supply. Donations are always welcome and appreciated. Please consider partnering with LifeSouth to grow the blood supply for our community. Give a unit and save a life.

*If you're interested in becoming a donor, visit LifeSouth at 967 Hillcrest Rd. in Mobile or 6451 Merritt Blvd. in Daphne. You can also call (251) 706-1470 for more information.*

TEXT BY KAY HANDY

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