

# SHORT-TERM, LONG-TERM, SOCIAL AND SPATIAL EFFECTS OF INCENTIVES FOR PRO-SOCIAL BEHAVIOR: MICRO EVIDENCE FROM A NATURAL FIELD EXPERIMENT<sup>\*</sup>

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## Abstract

We present evidence from a natural field experiment involving nearly 100,000 individuals on the mechanisms through which offering economic incentives affects pro-social behavior. Subjects offered \$5, \$10 and \$15 gift cards to donate blood were more likely to donate, and more so the higher the reward value. The incentives had a stronger effect on older subjects, on those who had donated more often and more recently, and those with stronger extrinsic motivation; we detected no heterogeneity across gender or blood type. We also find evidence of a *social spillover* effect whereby subjects who were offered incentives motivated others to donate. Subjects were also more likely to *spatially* and *temporally* alter the location of their donations towards the drives offering rewards. However, the temporal effect only reduced donations immediately after the reward offer was removed but did not cause any long-term change in donations. We also find no evidence of reciprocity: subjects who received a reward by surprise were less likely to donate after the intervention than subjects who received no reward. We discuss the implications of these findings for understanding and motivating pro-social behavior.

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# 1. Introduction

Volunteering and performing pro-social activities – cleaning beaches, helping the elderly, working in soup kitchens, donating blood, etc. – represent one of the biggest “industries” in many countries. For instance, in the U.S. the estimated value of volunteer time is over \$240 billion, and about half of the adults in the U.K. devote time to volunteering at least once a month.<sup>1</sup> These activities involve individuals and organizations, and receive constant attention from policymakers. However, the supply of many of these activities often falls short of societal needs.

This pressure on supply is especially salient for blood donations; blood has no viable substitute and shortages are frequent.<sup>2</sup> Recent evidence based on aggregate (blood drive-level) data indicates that economic rewards might increase the voluntary supply of blood, without negative consequences on its quality (Lacetera, Macis and Slonim, 2012). However, the literature so far has not offered a comprehensive and fully causally identified analysis on *how* economic incentives work to stimulate blood donations.

In this paper, we present evidence from a natural field experiment conducted with the American Red Cross in Northern Ohio (ARC), involving 98,278 individuals for whom we had access to rich demographic data and detailed pre-intervention and post-intervention blood donation behavior. We randomized the monetary value of the rewards subjects were given to donate blood (\$5, \$10 and \$15 gift cards for a variety of stores), and we randomized both across and within blood drives whether subjects were informed about the presence of these rewards.

The randomization of subjects both across and within blood drives to treatments, and the wealth of individual-level data at our disposal (including the entire donation possibility set of all the subjects before, during and after the intervention), allow us to answer a number of key questions that have not been addressed in the literature, including: What is the shape of the individual-level “blood supply curve” in response to economic incentives of different monetary value but otherwise identical rewards? Does the response vary for different individuals? What are the mechanisms through which these incentives operate (e.g., do incentives simply make it more likely that a person donates, or do they also induce individuals to motivate others to donate)? Do incentives generate genuine extra donations or displace donations that would have occurred anyway? What are the long-term effects after the incentive offers have been withdrawn (e.g., is there inter-temporal displacement or more persistent motivational undermining)?

We find that reward offers positively affected the willingness of individuals to donate blood, on average from 0.53% to 1.02% -- a 100% increase. This overall result is consistent with the drive-level evidence in

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<sup>1</sup> Independent Sector, 2006; Department of Communities and Local Government, 2009.

<sup>2</sup> Blood transfusions are required in case of trauma, surgeries, the treatment of premature babies, and several chronic diseases. Population aging and new surgical procedures such as organ transplantations are increasing the demand for blood. Only about 5% of eligible individuals donate blood in developed countries, and fewer do so in developing countries. The availability of blood is often below the target of three days of demand. It is estimated that, worldwide, there is a shortage of about 22 million units of blood per year (DiRado, 2004; Hemobiotech, 2008; Oakley, 1996).

Lacetera et al. (2012). In addition, here we estimate a significant upward sloping, individual-level supply curve for higher valued rewards, and we identify heterogeneity in responses; for example, the likelihood to donate increased by 51% among subjects with previous history at the intervention sites (from 13.2% to 19.9%), and by more than 200% (from 0.08% to 0.25%) for subjects who had never donated at the intervention sites. The impact was also stronger among subjects who were older, had donated more often, had donated more recently, and had donated more often at drives that offered material rewards. The effect of incentives did not vary by either gender or blood type.

We also find significant “*spatial displacement*” effects whereby incentives prompted donors to alter the location of their donation. We estimated that on average 26% of the extra donations would have occurred at some other ARC drive in the same month of the intervention. The displacement effect increased with the value of the incentive and it was nearly 40% for the highest valued reward offer (\$15).

The incentives also prompted individuals informed of the rewards through official ARC channels to induce others to donate - a “*social spillover*” effect that attracted other active, lapsed and new donors who had not been directly informed by the ARC. We estimate that for every 100 individuals who were offered a reward, 3.9 new and lapsed donors were induced to donate.<sup>3</sup> We also find that the social spillover effect was stronger for higher reward values, and it was due to individuals who had donated at the same intervention site in the past, which suggests that spillover effects are stronger among individuals who share social ties. Thus an analysis of the immediate (i.e., short-term) effect of reward offers that is limited to how subjects donations are affected at intervention locations both under-estimates the total effect due to the significant social spillovers, and over-estimates the total effect due to spatial displacement.

We further find, comparing the subjects’ donations before and after the intervention, a significant *inter-temporal substitution effect* whereby subjects altered the timing, but not the amount, of their donations. The subjects who were offered the rewards and donated at the intervention drives were on average 12% less likely to donate three months after than before the intervention than those who were not offered rewards. Once again, the effect was largest among subjects informed of the \$15 rewards, reaching 20% fewer subjects who donated three months after than before the intervention. However, this decline was limited to the three months following the intervention, and comparing donations 6 or 9 months before and after the intervention shows no change in donations, suggesting that donors adjusted their donation schedule (i.e., substituted inter-temporally) rather than experienced any loss in motivation to donate. Although we detected no long term effects, short-term inter-temporal substitution can be valuable because it can shift donations towards times when blood supply is most needed. Last, we find, unexpectedly given the extensive support for reciprocity in lab experiments, that subjects who received a reward as a surprise were less likely to donate after the intervention for all nine months that we followed subjects. We explore several explanations for this behavior.

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<sup>3</sup> Attracting new donors may lead to larger effects on the blood supply in the long run since new donors could become long-term, regular donors. Our sample size for new donors, however, is too small to estimate such long-term effects.

By addressing all of the above issues and mechanisms in the same setting, this paper is the first to provide results on the full impact of economic rewards on blood donations and a comprehensive view of the mechanisms through which these incentives operate.<sup>4</sup> Our contribution, however, extends well beyond this specific context to pro-social behavior in general. Our results stress that spatial displacement, inter-temporal substitution and social spillovers are all critical to understand the full impact of incentives.

In addition to contributing to the scholarly debate on incentives and altruistic behavior,<sup>5</sup> addressing the issues above is also relevant for policymakers and organizations interested in enhancing any services provided voluntarily by a disperse set of suppliers.<sup>6</sup> For these organizations, understanding what motivates volunteers and how volunteers will fully respond is crucial. Also, because many of these activities originate in the “civil society,” (e.g., within firms, associations, churches, etc.) it is important to understand and quantify the social mechanisms that are put in motion by economic incentives.<sup>7</sup> Further, because donors may substitute among pro-social activities, it is critical to understand whether and how the presence of rewards prompts substitution (spatially and temporally), to quantify the “net” effect. Finally, organizations involved in managing these activities and products (such as blood) can also benefit from understanding what subgroups of the population are more or less responsive to rewards.

In section 2 we provide information on the ARC’s Northern Ohio Blood Service Unit. Section 3 describes the details of the experimental design and the data. The results are reported and discussed in section 4, where we also propose a cost-benefit analysis that includes all of the effects detected in the study. Finally, section 5 concludes.

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<sup>4</sup> Other papers in economics that analyzed the motivation for blood donation have compared different reward items: Goette and Stutzer (2008) experimentally examined lottery tickets and a health test; Lacetera and Macis (2012) considered paid leave legislation; Lacetera et al. (2012) examined rewards such as t-shirts, coupons, blankets and sweaters. These different types introduce unobserved heterogeneity in the individuals’ subjective valuation for the items. In the current experiment, all the items are identical (gift cards) so the only variation is in the monetary value. Other papers looked at intentions to donate (Lacetera and Macis, 2010; Shi, 2011) or other indirect activities (e.g., taking a health test to determine eligibility, as in Mellstrom and Johannesson, 2008) rather than actual donation behavior. None of the papers mentioned above looked at displacement effects, with the exception of Lacetera et al. (2012), but their analysis of displacement was based on non-experimental, aggregate (drive-level) data. None of these papers considered social spillover effects or long-term effects, and none presented an exploration of heterogeneity as extensive as the one we present in this paper.

<sup>5</sup> Gneezy, Meier and Rey-Biel (2011) and Kamenica (2011) review the literature.

<sup>6</sup> The “diffused” supply of pro-social activities and products, especially in the health sector, is emerging also in developing countries (Ashraf, Bandiera and Jack et al., 2012; Cohen and Dupas, 2010; Dupas, 2011).

<sup>7</sup> Evidence of social incentives has been found in the workplace by Bandiera, Barankay and Rasul (2010) Ichino and Maggi (2000), and Mas and Moretti (2009).

## 2. Institutional Background: The American Red Cross in Northern Ohio

The Northern Ohio Blood Service Unit of the ARC runs over 7,000 blood drives per year.<sup>8</sup> The drives are run in partnership with a “host” organization (e.g., a school, church, community center, private firm and hospital) that offers space at a specific location and date, while the ARC provides the administrative and collection staff (including a drive “representative”) as well as physical equipment for the blood collection. Several thousand individuals are typically informed about each blood drive. In most counties in Northern Ohio the ARC sends out a flyer through the mail on the 23<sup>rd</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup> of a month indicating all the drives that will occur in the county in the following month.<sup>9</sup> Figure 1 provides an example of a flyer (identifying information has been redacted). The flyers include information on each drive’s location and hours of operation, whether an incentive is offered and, if so, the specific type of incentive. About 40% of the blood drives offer a promotion item (provided by either the ARC or the drive’s host) and it is very rare to observe more than one item at a drive. Common items include T-shirts, coupons, jackets, coolers, blankets and gift cards from various merchants. The ARC mails each county flyer to everyone who has previously donated in that county and is “active” or “eligible.” An active donor is someone who has donated at least once over the past two years and an eligible donor is someone who the ARC knows is not currently disqualified. Donors can be disqualified either because the donation may endanger the donor or because the donation would be unusable; examples include individuals with anaemia, low blood pressure or low iron, and recent behavior that increases the risk of potential blood problems that tests cannot detect. Donors are also not permitted to donate for 56 days after making a whole blood donation.

## 3. Experimental Design and Data

### 3.1 Design

We ran our experiment over four periods: September 2009, December 2009, March 2010, and July-August 2010. The four periods gave us the opportunity to collect more independent observations and control for seasonal effects. While our unit of observation for all of our analyses will be individual subjects who will be either informed or uninformed of incentive offers, our design takes advantage of the ARC’s procedures and information on blood drives to create similar donation opportunities and characteristics between the subject populations who will be informed and uninformed. We thus start by describing the selection of blood drives.

**Selection of blood drives:** We established six criteria that all potential drives would have to meet to be in our study, such that the drives would be similar to each other, avoid atypical drive characteristics, and avoid

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<sup>8</sup> The ARC operates 36 regional blood centers within the US and Puerto Rico. Northern Ohio covers 10,206 square miles and includes major cities such as Cleveland and Akron. In 2010, about 4.1 million people lived in Northern Ohio, median income was about \$47,000 (overall US: \$50,221); the unemployment rate was 9.9% (US: 9.6%); and there were 83% Caucasians and 11.4% African Americans (US: 72.4% and 12.6%).

<sup>9</sup> Monthly flyers are sent in 17 of the 21 counties where the ARC-Northern Ohio operates. People in the remaining 4 counties are sent postcards about specific drives. We only considered counties where information is through flyers.

potentially confounding concerns for our analyses of subject behavior. First, we excluded “closed” drives (i.e., drives restricted to a narrow set of donors such as high school students) because they limit who can donate and thus limit broader potential effects of an incentive offer. Closed drives represent about 20% of all drives. Second, we required host locations to have run at least three drives in the year prior to the first intervention period (henceforth, the reference year) so that we would have substantial data on behavior prior to our intervention for better control measures.<sup>10</sup> Twenty-two percent of host locations had two or fewer drives in the reference year. Third, we restricted the host location’s average turnout during the reference year to be within one standard deviation of the overall mean turnout in Northern Ohio drives (11.9 to 57.5 donors) to avoid unusually large or small drives that could be sensitive to idiosyncratic issues (e.g., during holiday weekends). About 70% of all donations in the reference year were made at drives within one standard deviation of the mean. Fourth, we required that no more than 50% of the drives at the host location during the reference year offered an incentive. By removing these uncommon locations where incentives were the norm, we avoid situations in which our intervention control drive locations that offer no rewards could be unusual for *not* offering incentives. Fifth, we ensured that the ARC did not introduce any additional incentives beyond our rewards at our intervention drives because it was rare for the ARC to offer more than one reward at a drive. We also only used drives in which no incentive was offered at the same location in the drive immediately prior to the intervention drive so that the sequence of rewards between treatment and control drives would hold constant the preceding drive at the level of no rewards. Last, all drive locations in the experiment had to be at least five miles apart from each other to avoid possible contaminations across the experimental drives.

**Across-drive randomization:** Among all drives meeting these criteria, we randomly chose 18 per period in 9 pairs such that the drives within a pair were held in the same county while each pair was in a different county. Within each pair we randomly assigned one drive to have a reward (henceforth, Reward drives) and the other to have no reward (henceforth, No reward drives); this resulted in a total of 36 Reward and 36 No reward drives. The Reward and No reward drives were not only similar in meeting the above criteria, but also had the identical population of potential donors who were contacted since the drives in a pair were advertised on the same county flyer.<sup>11</sup> Since no incentive was offered at the No reward drives, from the potential donor’s perspective these drives are identical to any other ARC drive that did not offer a reward. At the Reward drives, donors could choose either one, two or three \$5 gift cards for our \$5, \$10 and \$15 treatments, respectively. Anyone presenting to donate would receive the gift cards regardless of whether they donated. Having three dollar values lets us estimate the shape of the supply curve whereas offering only one value might not reflect how other values would affect performance. We randomly allocated the dollar value

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<sup>10</sup> The reference year is from 5/18/2008 through 5/18/2009. Because the ARC allocates incentives to drives months in advance, it was important that we pre-selected our intervention drives as much in advance as possible to ensure that no incentives would be allocated at those sites in the drives immediately prior to our intervention drives.

<sup>11</sup> In a few cases, the No reward and Reward drives, while being in the same county, were advertised on separate flyers.

treatments across the 36 Reward drives so that there were 12 Reward drives per value, and an equal balance of values across the four time periods.

**The Incentives:** The gift card selection included merchants that sell food, gasoline and general merchandise (e.g., Wal-Mart, Target, BP, Buehler's, and Giant Eagle). We chose to offer gift cards as rewards for several reasons. First, and most important, unlike specific items (e.g., T-shirts or lottery tickets), the broad range of items the gift cards let donors purchase gives us confidence that the monetary value to the donors will be the same; we can also assume that gift cards of different values will be ranked in the same way by all subjects ( $\$15 > \$10 > \$5$ ), whereas offering specific items could introduce heterogeneity in the value subjects have for rewards. Second, we let donors choose gift cards from multiple merchants to increase the “liquidity” of the reward. Third, the cards excluded any reference to the ARC or blood donations to minimize any symbolic or signaling value. Fourth, gift cards are common promotion items offered by the ARC and the three dollar values we offered are within the normal range of perceived values of the items that the ARC offers, therefore the gift cards should not be perceived as “unusual.” An unusual gift item may signal, for instance, that there is a greater need for blood or that the ARC might be running an experiment, thus potentially compromising the validity of the study.<sup>12</sup> Finally, offering gift cards lets us track usage; if the cards were not used, then that would suggest that their dollar values are not a good proxy for the value of the gift to the donor.<sup>13</sup>

**Within-drive randomization:** All active and eligible donors included in the ARC's contact lists were informed about the blood drives through the ARC's normal communication channels as described in Section 2 above.<sup>14</sup> We randomized the 36 Reward drives into two conditions: 27 “Advertised reward” drives and nine “Surprise reward” drives. Seven of the 27 Advertised reward drives occurred in each of the first three periods and the other six occurred in the last period. In the Advertised reward drives, a random sample of approximately half of the subjects in each drive was informed that a reward would be given, the types of gift cards offered, and the total dollar amount of the reward.<sup>15</sup> We could eventually use only 26 of the 27

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<sup>12</sup> More generally, it may be argued that the presence of rewards is perceived as a signal of scarcity and subjects would react to this, rather than to the rewards per se. However, the subjects received information about a whole set of drives in the flyers (see Figure 1), with some offering and some not offering rewards. Therefore it is unlikely that they derive any specific information on scarcity from a single drive on the flyer.

<sup>13</sup> Offering cash may have further guaranteed the same monetary value to the donors; however the FDA prohibits that blood collected from donors paid in cash be labeled as blood coming from volunteer donors, therefore the policy of the ARC is to not offer cash. This might raise the question of whether gift cards may elicit a different response than cash. Some research has shown that small in-kind rewards might be more effective than direct cash. However, cash was found to be as strong a motivator (if not stronger) than in-kind gifts for non-negligible dollar values (Heyman and Ariely, 2004). Furthermore, in experiments where subjects are asked to choose among in-kind and cash prizes, most subjects choose cash even if they stated a preference for the in-kind gift (Kube, Marechal and Puppe, forthcoming).

<sup>14</sup> The vast majority of the subjects, therefore, are individuals who have already donated blood in the past. We elaborate on the appropriateness of this sample in the concluding section below.

<sup>15</sup> Although we do not know the full name of the contacted individuals, we have information on the unique ID number for each subject and to the first letter of their last names. At the Advertised reward drives we randomly assigned either the subjects whose last name initial was between A-K, or those whose initial was L-Z, to receive a version of the flyer with information also on the presence of rewards. The “cutoff” was set between K and L because roughly half of last names in the US begin with a letter between A and K.

Advertised treatment drives in the analysis because, at one drive, unforeseen contingencies did not allow the host to apply the experimental protocol. In the remaining nine Surprise reward drives (two in each of the first three periods, and three in the last period), no subject was informed of the presence of an incentive. Recall that all presenting donors at a Reward drive, regardless of their awareness of the reward, would be offered the reward.

Table 1a shows how subjects were randomly assigned to treatments. This design allows us to examine the direct effect on the change in the likelihood to donate for subjects informed of the reward offer, as well as indirect effects in which informed subjects may motivate uninformed individuals to donate. The uninformed-of-reward subjects at the Advertised reward drives provide a natural control group for the informed subjects (Row 1 vs. Row 2); the random assignment of subjects to be uninformed or informed ensures that the subject characteristics (i.e., demographics and past donation history) and donation opportunities (e.g., date, location, weather conditions and host personnel involved) of the two groups will be the same.

However, we anticipated that (officially) uninformed of reward subjects could learn about the rewards from the informed subjects through word-of-mouth or other social networking activities. To address this possibility, we included the Surprise reward drives in the design so that we can quantify these indirect effects. Since no subject invited to a Surprise drive was informed of rewards, the donation behavior of this group provides a benchmark for the donations of the uninformed subjects at the Advertised drives; the difference in the likelihood to donate between these two groups gives us one measure of the possible informed subjects' indirect efforts to motivate others (Row 2 vs. Row 3). We also designed the experiment to estimate any effects of incentives on uninformed subject's behavior if drive hosts or ARC personnel who were aware of the rewards communicated with subjects through informal channels. Although we did not anticipate any informal communications since ARC personnel were requested to follow our protocols, the design let us test for any informal ARC or host communications by comparing donations at Surprise reward drives with donations at the No Reward drives (Rows 3 vs. Row 4 of Table 1a).

**Spatial Substitution:** In addition to observing whether the subjects donated at the intervention drives, we also observed their donations at all other ARC drive in Northern Ohio. This data lets us test for spatial displacement triggered by the reward offers. Although this displacement will provide further evidence of incentives affecting subject's behavior, measuring and then netting out this displacement effect will let us estimate the effect of reward offers that are genuine additional donations. Our previous work (Lacetera et al., 2012), provided suggestive evidence from observational, aggregate (drive-level) data on this contemporaneous spatial displacement. The experimental, individual-level data used here allows us to make causal statements and perform a complete analysis of this crucial issue, commonly overlooked when studying pro-social behavior.

**Long-Term Effects:** Finally, we also designed the experiment to assess long-term effects. We accomplish this by comparing the difference in long term donation behavior between subjects who were informed of



rewards at the Advertised reward drives and subjects at the No reward drives (Row 1 vs. Row 4). Thus, we included the No reward drives to not only measure any potential informal activity by the ARC and hosts, but more importantly as the control group in the analyses of long term effects. There are two potential reasons why future donations may be lower after than before a reward was offered. First, a donation during the intervention might replace a future donation. In this case, the immediate positive response to the incentive would be due to short-term inter-temporal substitution, and thus any positive short term effect would overestimate the total effect. Second, Deci and Flaste (1996) argue that the presence of incentives could alter donors' perception of their motivation for donating. In this case, a donor's intrinsic motivation to donate could fall after receiving an incentive. This lower utility and related decline in donations, in contrast to inter-temporal substitution, would persist over a longer period of time. By observing subject's donation behavior for nine months after the intervention, we can thus distinguish between a short-term inter-temporal substitution effect and a longer-term reduction in utility to donate. The impact of rewards on future donations may also be positive. First, economic incentives may nudge subjects to develop a donation habit. Evidence of habit formation following short-term incentives has been found in the case of physical exercise (Charness and Gneezy, 2009; Royer, Stehr and Sydnor, 2012). Meer (2011) and Rosen and Sims (2011) show habit formation in charitable giving. Second, someone who donates when an incentive is offered will learn more about the donation experience, and potentially positively update their expectations about the time involved (e.g., the bleed time is usually under 10 minutes and the whole process is usually under one hour) and the lack of physical discomfort during and after the procedure (e.g., not as painful or tiring as expected). The Surprise drives also let us examine reciprocal preferences and potential sorting among donors who donated when they were and were not aware of the reward. For instance, Falk (2007) found that people are more likely to make a monetary donation when they receive an unexpected gift item. We also anticipated that subjects who donate when they know a reward has been offered (the informed-of-rewards subjects who donate at the Advertised drives) may have a different reaction to receiving rewards than subjects who were unaware (the subjects who donate at the Surprise drives). When uninformed of the rewards, some subjects may present to donate who would have avoided donating if they had known about the reward; providing rewards to these subjects thus might negatively affect their willingness to donate in the future. For instance, Lazear, Malmendier and Weber (forthcoming) find significant sorting among laboratory subjects to avoid making decisions in games that elicit social preferences.

**Additional Design Features:** A few other features of the design are worth mentioning. First, the ARC guaranteed that identical, standard procedures were used for all 71 drives in the experiment. Second, subjects were never informed that a study was being conducted and since gift cards and other items of similar value are often offered by the ARC, it is reasonable to assume that subjects were never aware they were participating in a study and, thus, being observed. Last, the random assignment of rewards to drives and who was informed about them were the only changes to the ARC's operations; no other aspect (e.g. personnel,

location, supplies, and communications) was changed. Our design is therefore a natural field experiment (Harrison and List, 2004).

**Design Checks:** Before turning to the data and results, we make three points to verify the validity of the design. First, we conducted an anonymous survey at the Reward drives during the last two intervention waves (March and July-August 2010), to assess whether the information on the rewards was communicated as designed. We asked presenting donors whether they knew about the presence of gift cards before coming to the blood drive, and if so, how they learned about them. The response rate was 94% and we collected 640 surveys. Among those who were sent flyers with the rewards information, 52% indicated knowing about them, and primarily through the flyers.<sup>16</sup> In contrast, only 4% (6/159) of the respondents at the Surprise reward drives reported knowing about the rewards. This confirms that the official communication of rewards was effective, and the lack of awareness of subjects at the Surprise drives is consistent with our understanding that ARC representatives and drive hosts would not informally tell anyone about the rewards. Among the respondents on the uninformed-of-reward list at the Advertised reward drives, 17% indicated knowing about the rewards, and a large share of these reported that they knew through family and friends.

Second, to further investigate whether the same standard recruitment procedures were used for the drives with and without rewards, we compared donations at No reward drives (where no incentives were present, and so incentives could not have motivated any informal actions by ARC representatives or drive hosts) with donations at Surprise reward drives where ARC representatives were aware of the incentives, but no subjects were formally informed of them. As shown in Table B1 in the Appendix, there is no evidence that donation rates at Surprise drives were higher than at No reward drives.

Third, we examined whether gift cards were actually taken and used; if donors either refused to accept the cards or did not use them, then we would have lost some control by offering an item that the subjects did not value. However, we find that 98% of the cards offered were taken and more than 90% of the sum of all the cards' value was spent within the first four weeks after being given out. Thus, we are confident that the subjects perceived the rewards as providing economic value.

### 3.2 Data

We have individual-level information on everyone contacted during the intervention (i.e., the subjects) and anyone else who donated at an intervention drive but had not been contacted, which includes new and lapsed donors (i.e., eligible but inactive). These data include the total number of past donations, detailed donation history (date and location of each single donation) for the four years prior to our first intervention until nine

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<sup>16</sup> There could be many reasons why only 52% of informed respondents indicated they knew about the rewards. They may have forgotten or not want to admit that they knew about them. Some donors may not have noticed the reward offer, and this suggests that our results may under-estimate the effect of incentives.

months after our final intervention, and demographics (gender, age and blood type).<sup>17</sup>

Using the subjects' donation histories, we can distinguish between subjects who have and have not donated in the past at an intervention site. This heterogeneity is important because individuals who have previously donated at a drive are more likely to live closer to its location, know how to get to it and be familiar with the ARC staff and drive hosts. Therefore, we anticipated that subjects will be more likely to donate at an intervention site, *ceteris paribus*, if they had previously donated at that drive. This was indeed the case; subjects with previous history at a site are over one hundred times more likely to donate at the site than subjects who had never donated at the site. To control for this base rate heterogeneity, we generally present analyses for these two types of subjects separately which crucially helps us identify and quantify the effects of incentives with dramatically greater precision. The individual-level characteristics in the data also let us examine whether the potential effects of rewards were heterogeneous along a number of dimensions including gender, age, blood type, and the frequency and timing of past donations.

Table 1b shows the number of individuals contacted for each condition. Overall, 98,278 unique subjects were contacted for at least one intervention drive. About 50% of these subjects were contacted in exactly one intervention period, about 30% were contacted in two periods and 20% were contacted in three or four periods. Adding up all these contacts, there were 176,327 total contacts (individual-wave observations). Once we limit the sample to the individuals who were eligible to donate at the intervention drives, we are left with 79,680 subjects and 128,690 total contacts.<sup>18</sup> Table 2 shows statistics on the characteristics of the drives in the three experimental conditions (i.e., No reward, Advertised reward, Surprise reward) during the reference year prior to our intervention and at the intervention drives. Given the random assignment of drives, it is not surprising that the characteristics across the three treatment conditions are statistically identical (we cannot reject the hypothesis of no differences in means using t-tests for any pair-wise comparisons).

Table 3 describes the characteristics of the individuals contacted for each treatment: informed of the reward at Advertised reward drives, not informed at Advertised reward drives, and invited to Surprise reward drives). Across the three conditions, subjects were observationally nearly identical overall (Columns 1-3), conditional on having previously donated at the intervention site (Columns 4-6) and on never having donated at the intervention site (Columns 7-9). Identifying subjects based on whether they have or have not donated at a specific location naturally led to substantial heterogeneity since individuals who donate at more locations

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<sup>17</sup> The individual data we received were de-identified. We have information only on successful donations because regulations prevent the ARC from disclosing individual information when a deferral occurs. Although deferral information would have been interesting to examine, the drive-level data here and our past work (Lacetera et al., 2012) indicate that incentives did not affect deferrals, thus individual-level information may not be especially informative.

<sup>18</sup> Not all contacted people were eligible to donate at an intervention drive since flyers are mailed to donors if they are eligible *at some point* during the month, and in some cases donors did not become eligible until after the intervention drive.

will be more likely to have donated at a given location,<sup>19</sup> and the subject characteristics reflect this heterogeneity; subjects with a past history (Columns 4-6) on average had donated at approximately 3.0 different locations whereas subjects without a past donation history at the sites (Columns 7-9) had donated on average at about 1.9 different locations. Consistent with identifying subjects who had donated at more locations, those with past history at an intervention site also had made more total donations, donated more recently and were older than those who had not donated at the intervention sites. This heterogeneity highlights the importance of separately analyzing subjects with and without past donation experience at the intervention sites. Our sample includes 4,745 and 123,945 total contact observations with and without past donations at the intervention sites, respectively.

## 4. Results

We first report on the short-term impact of the rewards, both at the intervention drives and at the non-intervention drives to measure potential spatial substitution. We then compare the change in donation behavior of the subjects after versus before the intervention periods to assess the long-term effects of the rewards. We conclude with an attempt to quantify the overall monetary cost spent on the rewards for each additional unit of blood collected due to the reward offers, and to compare it to the benefits.

### 4.1 Short-Term Responses

#### 4.1.1 The effect of the incentives at the Advertised reward drives

**Direct effects:** Figure 2 shows the impact of the reward offer on the subjects contacted for Advertised reward drives and separately for subjects with and without history at the sites for which they were contacted. Overall, 0.65% of uninformed (of the rewards) subjects donated whereas 1.02% of informed subjects donated. Donations increased with the value of the reward and were especially large for the \$15 drives where the percent of subjects who donated was nearly twice as large among the informed (1.63%) than uninformed (0.90%) subjects. This confirms the extant drive-level evidence showing a positive impact of material rewards for motivating blood donations (Lacetera et al., 2012).

Figures 2B and 2C highlight the degree of heterogeneity between individuals with and without past history, respectively. Subjects who had donated previously at a site were dramatically more likely to donate; 15% of uninformed subjects with a previous history donated whereas just 0.10% of uninformed subjects with no previous history donated. Further, the response to incentives was stronger in absolute terms for those with

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<sup>19</sup> To illustrate this point, consider a county with two intervention drive locations, X and Y, and two types of people, A and B, each making up half of the population. Suppose type A people have donated at both locations and half of type B people have only donated at X and the other half only at Y. In this case, although there would be an equal number of types A and B overall, all type As and half of the type Bs have past history at an intervention drive whereas no type As and half of type Bs have never donated at an intervention drive. Thus, the subjects who have donated at more locations (type As) will make up more of the population among those who have past history (they make up 2/3 of this population) than among those who have never donated at an intervention site (they make up 0% of this population).

previous history (from 15% to 20%) than without history (from 0.10% to 0.25%), but the response was much stronger in relative terms for those without previous history (150%) than with previous history (33%). We next estimate versions of the following regression model:

$$Prob(DONATED_{ijt}=1) = f(INFO\_REWARD, X_{ijt}, \eta_j, \varepsilon_{it}). \quad (1)$$

The outcome variable  $DONATED_{ijt}$  is a dummy for whether subject  $i$  donated at intervention drive  $j$  on date  $t$  (during one of the intervention periods). The coefficient on the dummy variable  $INFO\_REWARD$  (= 1 if subject  $i$  was informed of a reward, and 0 otherwise) estimates the difference in the probability of donating for those who were informed of an incentive relative to those who were not informed of the incentive at the same drive, *ceteris paribus*. We also use this model to estimate the effect of the three dollar values by replacing  $INFO\_REWARD$  with  $\$5-INFO\_REWARD$ ,  $\$10-INFO\_REWARD$ , and  $\$15-INFO\_REWARD$ . The controls in vector  $X_{ijt}$  include gender (dummy for female), age (dummies for 25-49 and 50+), O-Neg blood type, total donations to date (dummies for 2-9 and 10+) and most recent donation (within the last 6 months or the last 6 to 12 months). The term  $\eta_j$  represents drive-level fixed effects. We report throughout estimates from linear probability models because they allow us to conveniently include drive-level fixed effects; the estimates and standard errors in the tables have been multiplied by 100 to reflect the percentage change.<sup>20</sup>

Table 4 presents the results.<sup>21</sup> Overall, informed-of-reward subjects were 0.33 percentage points more likely to donate than the uninformed subjects, an increase of just over 50% (Column 1), and the likelihood to donate increased with the dollar value of the reward (Columns 2 and 3). Individuals with past history at the Advertised reward drives were about 170 times more likely to donate at these drives than subjects with no past history at these drives. Given this dramatic heterogeneity, we henceforth present estimates separately for subjects with and without previous donation history at the drives.

Offering rewards increased the donations by 4.5 percentage points for informed subjects who donated in the past at the Advertised reward sites (baseline 15.3%), with stronger effects for higher dollar values (Columns 4 and 5). Without controls for drive fixed effects, a \$5, \$10, and \$15 reward offer increased the donations by 1.3, 4.9 and 7.3 percentage points, respectively, compared to donations by the uninformed subjects across all Advertised reward drives, representing an 8%, 32% and 47% increase compared to the baseline of all uninformed subjects (Column 5). The \$10 and \$15 reward offers attracted significantly more informed subjects to donate than the \$5 offer.<sup>22</sup> Column 6 includes drive-level fixed effects so that the subjects informed of an \$X reward are now compared to the subjects at the same drive (X=5, 10, and 15).

<sup>20</sup> The Appendix reports results from Logit estimates of our main models (Table B2), with very similar findings.

<sup>21</sup> In addition to the effect of rewards, Table 4 shows that on average women were less likely to donate while the oldest subjects, subjects who had donated more than 10 times and subjects who had donated in the last six months were more likely to donate at the intervention drives. We discuss whether the incentive offer had heterogeneous effects below.

<sup>22</sup> Significance is calculated from one-tailed tests for the difference in the dollar reward amounts (e.g., \$15 offer vs. \$5 offer) since we assume any potential negative effects on motivation from being offered a reward are constant whereas the benefits are increasing as the reward value increases, consistent with Gneezy and Rustichini's (2000) evidence.

Including the drive fixed effects, we obtain much more similar estimates for the coefficients on three dollar amounts. This does not necessarily imply that the direct effect of the reward offer on donations is the same regardless of the value of the reward; if information about the reward offer was conveyed from informed to uninformed subjects, and if this informal donor-to-donor communication was more prevalent for more valuable rewards, then uninformed subjects could also show a similar response to a reward offer as informed ones, which would compress the differences in the estimated likelihood of donating, and more so the higher the value of the reward. We explore donor-to-donor communication more formally below.

For subjects with no previous donation history at the advertised drives, although the absolute magnitude of the effects is smaller, they are significant and larger relative to the baseline donations of the uninformed subjects. Being informed of a reward led to an average 0.16 percentage point increase on the likelihood to donate compared to 0.09% for the uninformed subjects. The effect was driven by the \$10 and \$15 reward offers. The response to the \$15 offer was particularly large; it increased the likelihood to donate by 0.35 percentage points, almost 300% over the uninformed subjects (Columns 7-9).

**Indirect effects – social spillovers:** Figure 2b showed that donations across different reward values were increasing with the reward value among individuals who were uninformed of the rewards, which is consistent with these subjects learning about the reward offer from informed subjects. The survey evidence described in Section 3 is also consistent with this potential donor-to-donor communication, in particular the fact that more donors at Advertised reward drives who were not formally informed of the reward offer reported knowing about the reward (17%) than donors at the Surprise drive (4%), and that among the donors indicating they knew about the rewards, the uninformed donors at the Advertised drive were more likely to indicate learning about the reward offer from friends, family or co-workers (16.5%) than the informed donors (7.4%). This evidence suggests that offering rewards may have not only a direct effect of motivating individuals to donate, but also an indirect effect of motivating individuals to get others (presumably within their social reach) to donate.

We formally test this indirect effect in two ways. First, we compare the behavior of the uninformed subjects at the Advertised drives (where half the subjects were informed) and at the Surprise drives (where no subject was informed). Any difference in donations may be attributed to (informed) donor-to-(uninformed) donor communication since at both drives the ARC representatives and drive hosts were aware of the rewards, therefore only the presence of informed subjects systematically differs. Second, we compared the number of donations that occurred among individuals who were not contacted officially by the ARC for any drive at the Advertised reward drives (where half the donors were informed of the rewards) and at all other intervention drives (where no subjects were informed); if subjects informed of the reward were motivating others to donate, then other individuals beyond our subject population would learn about the

rewards and thus result in higher donations at the Advertised than non-advertised drives. These comparisons are reported in Figures 3a and 3b and Table 5.

For subjects with past history at the drives (Figure 3a), the percentage who donated was higher among those who were uninformed of rewards at Advertised than Surprise drives, and this difference increases with the dollar value of the reward. Further, the donations of the individuals contacted for Surprise reward drives did not vary with the dollar value of the reward, suggesting not only that the higher percentage of donations among the uninformed at the advertised drives was driven by informal communications, but also provides further corroboration of our experimental design in which ARC representatives and drive hosts did not informally communicate with anyone about the rewards. For those without a past history at the drives (Figure 3b), the donations of the uninformed at Advertised reward sites and at Surprise reward sites were very similar to each other and essentially flat across the dollar values. In Table 5 we report estimates from models of the following form:

$$Prob(DONATED_{ijt}=1) = f(ADV\_UNINFORMED_{ijk}, X_{ijt}, \varepsilon_{jt}), \quad (2)$$

where the dummy *ADV\_UNINFORMED* equals 1 if a subject was contacted for an Advertised reward drive but was uninformed about the reward, and equals 0 if the subject was contacted for a Surprise reward drive. As before, we also add dummies for the different dollar levels of the rewards, and use linear probability models and the same basic specifications in Model (1). Drive-level fixed effects cannot be used here since all subjects at a drive were in the same treatment. Instead, period fixed effects are included in the regressions and we cluster the standard errors at the drive level.<sup>23</sup>

For subjects with prior history at the drive, those uninformed of the rewards at the Advertised reward drives were 2.4 percentage points more likely to donate than those at the Surprise drives. This difference is driven mostly by the \$15 drives.<sup>24</sup> This estimated 4.4 percentage point increase at the \$15 drives is similar in magnitude to the difference between the OLS and drive fixed effect estimates for the \$15 reward in Table 4. Thus it appears that informal donor-to-donor communications (within the group of donors who gave at the same site in the past) increases the likelihood that an officially uninformed subject will donate when individuals are informed of a \$15 offer. For subjects with no past donations at the drives, no substantial effects are detected.

Table 6 presents further evidence that informed individuals motivated others to donate. Here we examine the 328 individuals who donated at the intervention sites and who were not contacted through any formal ARC channel about the drives where they donated, not even about the *presence* of that drive. Among these individuals, 108 were first-time donors, and the he remaining 220 had donated at some point in the past

<sup>23</sup> The Tables report both robust standard errors (in parentheses) and drive-level clustered standard errors (in brackets).

<sup>24</sup> The estimate is significant at the 11.5% level if we consider a 2-tailed test, but is significant within the conventional 10% level if we consider a one-tailed test. The one-tail test is appropriate here because we are testing the hypothesis of an *additional positive* effect with respect to a null of zero effect.

(henceforth “lapsed” donors). If there were no informal communications about the rewards, we would expect these individuals’ donations to be distributed across the drives proportionally to the number of intervention drives for each condition, thus 50.6% (36/71) at No reward drives, 36.7% (26/71) at Advertised reward drives, and 12.7% (9/71) at Surprise reward drives. However, there is a “shift” in the actual distribution of these donors toward Advertised reward drives; 46.3%, 43.5% and 47.7% of overall, first-time and lapsed donors, respectively, donated at the Advertised drives relative to the 36.7% of all drives being Advertised, and the differences are statistically significant at the 1%, 7% and 1% level, respectively (from binomial tests of proportions). These proportions translate to the average number of not-contacted donors per drive being higher at the Advertised reward drives (5.8) than the No reward and Surprise reward drives (3.9). Thus, 1.9 extra non-contacted individuals donated per Advertised reward drive when the ARC officially communicated the reward to only half the subjects. Given that on average each drive generated 26.8 units of blood during the pre-intervention period (Table 2), this implies 7.1% additional donations per drive due to social spillovers. If we assume these new and lapsed donors were primarily attracted by the informed-of-reward subjects with past history at the intervention drives (as we found in Table 5, the social spillover effects only occurred among the uninformed subjects who had past history at the intervention drive location), then the 1,283 informed-of-reward subjects over the 26 drives with past history attracted on average 1.9 extra donors, or 3.9 new and lapsed donors for every 100 subjects informed of the reward. Moreover, new and lapsed donors may have further value to the extent that they become repeat donors.

**The total direct effect of incentives:** To the extent that informal communication between subjects informed and uninformed of rewards motivated uninformed subjects to donate, the estimates in Table 4 understate the total direct effect of offering rewards. Thus we now compare the donations of subjects who were informed of rewards with those invited to the Surprise reward drives. We estimate:

$$Prob(DONATED_{ijt}=1) = f(ADV\_INFORMED_{ijk}, X_{ijt}, \varepsilon_{jt}), \quad (3)$$

which is identical to model (2) except that the sample here replaces the uninformed-of-reward subjects with those informed of the rewards, whereas subjects contacted for the Surprise reward drives remain the reference group ( $ADV\_INFORMED = 1$  and 0, respectively).

Table 7 presents the results. Subjects with and without past history at the intervention sites who were informed of the rewards were more likely to donate than those uninformed of the rewards. Across all three reward values the likelihood to donate was 6.7 percentage points higher for subjects with past history (a relative increase of over 50% compared to a baseline of 13.2%), and 0.17 percentage points higher for those without past history (a relative increase of over 200% compared to a baseline of 0.08%). The effects were increasing in the dollar value of the reward; the \$5, \$10 and \$15 rewards increased the probability of donating by 3.5, 6.9, and 9.5 percentage points, respectively, for subjects with a past history at the sites, and



by 0.06 (marginally significant), 0.14 (marginally significant) and 0.37 percentage points for subjects with no previous history at the sites. The higher reward offers had a roughly linear effect among subjects with a past donation history at the sites (about 0.65 percentage points per dollar). However, among subjects without past history, the \$15 reward had a strikingly large increase of over 400% ( $0.37/.08$ ).

#### 4.1.2 Heterogeneous effects

We explore whether the reward offer differentially affected subjects by adding an interaction term for each subject characteristic and *INFO\_REWARD* to model (3), i.e., comparing subjects informed of rewards at the Advertised reward drives with all subjects at the Surprise reward drives.<sup>25</sup> To avoid higher-order interactions, we estimated each interaction separately, thus the heterogeneous effects for each characteristic are evaluated at the mean value of the other characteristics. Results are presented in Table 8.

**Demographics and Past Donation History** We found no significant gender differences in the response to rewards. The likelihood to donate among men and women with a past history were 7.9 and 5.5 percentage points higher when informed of the rewards (Column 1), and men and women with no past history were 0.18 and 0.15 percentage points more likely to donate if informed of the rewards. These results differ from Mellstrom and Johannesson (2008) and Lacetera and Macis (2010) results that find negative responses to rewards by women. However, there are many differences in methodologies and populations that may explain the differences; Mellstrom and Johannesson (2008) examined a decision to take a health test among non-donor students (who knew they were taking part in a study), and Lacetera and Macis (2010) examined stated preferences. Our results are based on actual donation behavior among existing donors who were unaware of participating in a study. We also do not detect significant differences in the response to incentives across age, blood type or total past donations among subjects with previous history at the intervention sites (Columns 2-4).

Among subjects with no past history at the intervention drives (Columns 7-11), we find significant heterogeneity; subjects who were older, had donated more often and more recently, were significantly more likely to donate when a reward was offered. The age effect is somewhat surprising if older subjects have less flexibility (so higher opportunity cost of time) and greater wealth (so lower marginal utility for the rewards). One potential explanation is that older donors may be more secure (or less concerned) with rewards undermining either their self or social image or undermining their intrinsic motivations. Since the age effect only occurs among subjects with no past donations at the intervention sites, age may also reflect greater mobility and, to the extent the oldest subjects may be retired, may also reflect greater free time. On the other hand, we are not surprised that subjects who have donated more often in the past and more recently were

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<sup>25</sup> Appendix Table B3 shows estimates comparing subjects informed and uninformed of the rewards at the Advertised reward drives; the results are very similar, qualitatively and quantitatively, to those reported in Table 8. Appendix Table B4 shows estimates where we interact the subject characteristics with the different monetary values of the rewards.

more likely to donate when a reward is offered since they may pay more attention to drive information and since their intrinsic motives are less likely to be affected by receiving a reward.<sup>26</sup>

**Extrinsic Motivation** The detailed individual-level donation history data allows us to construct a measure of extrinsic motivation: the share of drives a subject donated at in the previous four years which offered some ARC-provided material reward (SHAREW). SHAREW goes from 0 (an individual who never donated at a drive with rewards) to 1 (an individual who always donated at drives offering rewards). Based on this variable, we constructed three dummies for SHAREW = 0, SHAREW greater than zero and smaller than 50% and SHAREW > 50%. We then interacted these dummies with our treatment dummy to explore whether the effect of incentives varied depending on subjects' past propensity to donate at drives with rewards. Because the SHAREW variable may be extremely noisy for individuals who have given blood only a few times (e.g., someone who has donated once will have SHAREW take an extreme value of 0 or 1), we restrict the sample to subjects with at least four donations in the previous four years (or at least one donation per year).

We find that for subjects with no previous history at the intervention sites (Column 12 of Table 8) rewards disproportionately attracted subjects who had donated at drives with rewards more than half of the time (SHAREW>50%). This evidence suggests that the incentives may have been sufficient to attract some subjects who are willing to incur the additional inconvenience of donating at a new location to obtain the rewards. No such effect was found, however, for subjects with previous history at the intervention sites.

#### **4.1.3 The effect of the incentives at non-intervention drives: testing for spatial displacement**

The positive direct effect of reward offers on donations at the intervention drives may over-estimate the total increase in donations if the offer caused subjects to change the location of their donations from another drive to an intervention drive where rewards were offered. To measure displacement, we now estimate the effect of our intervention on donations at ARC drives in Northern Ohio other than the intervention drives during the intervention period. If reward offers at the intervention drives attracted subjects who would have donated *somewhere else* in the same time period, then we should have observed a decrease in the likelihood to donate at other drives by subjects who were informed of the rewards. For this analysis, we assume that any unobserved blood donations at other locations outside of the ARC's operations were unlikely to affect the displacement estimates in any meaningful way since other blood banks played a minor role in Northern Ohio (under 15% of the total units collected) and donors are unlikely to donate with multiple blood collection organizations.<sup>27</sup> In this section we also report estimates of the total effect of the reward offer at *all* ARC

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<sup>26</sup> Appendix Table B4 shows that this effect was mostly driven by the \$15 reward.

<sup>27</sup> It is also possible that displacement could occur outside Northern Ohio, but this is likely to reflect subjects moving rather than an effect of the rewards. Substitution may also occur with plasma or platelet donations, however these components represent only a small share of donations. Finally, subjects could substitute some other form of pro-social behavior in response to a blood donation reward offer, but this also is unlikely to affect displacement estimates given

drives (including the intervention drives) during the intervention months. By assessing the effect of the reward offer on the likelihood to donate *at all* location during the intervention period we can determine the overall (short-term) effect of the offer.

We compare the behavior of subjects informed of the rewards at the Advertised drives with subjects at the Surprise drives, again estimating versions of model (3), but we now use the outcome variables “donated somewhere else” and “donated anywhere.” We again analyze subjects with and without a past donation history at the sites separately. Because the likelihood to donate somewhere else depends on the number and characteristics of the alternative options, these regressions add controls for (1) the heterogeneity in the number of other drives included on the flyer that offered rewards when the intervention drive was advertised,<sup>28</sup> (2) whether a blood drive was available during the intervention month at any site where the subject had donated in the past, and (3) if that drive occurred, whether it offered a reward during the intervention month. The coefficient of interest in these regressions is again *INFO\_REWARD* (equal to 1 if subject *i* was informed of the reward at the Advertised drive and to 0 if *i* was contacted for a Surprise drive).

Table 9 presents the estimated coefficient on *INFO\_REWARD* from twelve regressions. For comparison, Columns 1 and 4 show the estimates on “donated at the intervention drive” from Table 7 with the added control variables. Row 1 shows the estimates from regressions aggregating across the three reward values and Rows 2-4 present the estimates with separate dummies for each reward value. All the regressions include period fixed effects and cluster standard errors at the drive level. Columns 1 and 4 show that the extra control variables increase the estimated effect of reward offers on donations by 0.7 and 0.02 percentage points for subjects with and without past donation history at the intervention drives (compared to those presented in Table 7), though they do not change the qualitative interpretation of any of the results described above.

For subjects with a past donation history at the intervention sites, being informed of the rewards increased the likelihood of donating at an intervention site by 7.4 percentage points but decreased the likelihood that they donated at another site by 1.9 percentage points. The displacement effect thus explains roughly 25% (1.9/7.4) of the increase at the intervention drives, suggesting that the genuine increase at the intervention drive was only 5.5 percentage points (7.4-1.9). The displacement effect was only marginally significant on average, but was significant for the \$15 reward offer ( $p < .05$ ). In this case, displacement explains roughly 40% (4.1/10.2) of the increase at the intervention drives, suggesting that the genuine increase at the intervention drive was only 6.1 percentage points (10.2—4.1). Thus, donors altered their donation location in response to the reward offers and this displacement was especially large when the

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the unobvious relationship between blood donations and other pro-social activities. An analysis of displacement to all possibly relevant activities is beyond the scope of this paper, but studying displacement in the blood donation context may be as ideal a context as there are no close substitutes for blood donations (as opposed to, e.g., cash donations).

<sup>28</sup> We could control for either the number of drives offering incentives or the total number of drives on a flyer, but we could not add both since the correlation between them was nearly 0.8. The results do not change meaningfully with either control; because there is a better fit with the number of drives offering rewards, we present these estimates.

incentive was large. Moreover, in contrast to the local effect, the genuine new donations excluding displacement effects in response to the \$10 or \$15 reward offers no longer differs. Thus, offering higher rewards increased the likelihood of donating at the intervention drives, but this larger increase appears to be due to subjects relocating their donation location rather than to generating a genuine extra donation.

For subjects without a past donation history at the intervention sites, we do not find evidence of displacement;<sup>29</sup> on average subjects were directionally more likely to donate at alternative locations, though the effect is estimated with substantial noise and none of the displacement estimates are significant. Given the greater donations elsewhere, the coefficients on donated anywhere for subjects without past history is thus greater than the estimated coefficients for donations at the intervention drives only; for instance, over all rewards subjects were 0.33 percentage points more likely to donate anywhere (compared to only 0.19 percentage points more likely to donate at the intervention drives). However, since the overwhelming majority (over 99%) of their donations occurred at locations other than the intervention drives, there is much greater noise (unrelated to the experimental conditions) in these estimates. Thus, even though the overall effect is now 0.33 percentage points, it does not reach significance as the standard errors increased from the intervention location estimate of 0.04 (Column 4) to 0.22 (Column 6) for the standard error on the overall estimates. Even with the higher standard errors, however, we find that offering the \$15 rewards increased the donations anywhere significantly ( $p < .05$ ).

## 4.2 The Long-Term Impact of the Rewards

We examine long-term effects for two reasons. First, as already discussed, we want to know the extent to which the short term effects at the intervention drives reflect an extra donation rather than (only) a temporal shift in a donation. Second, and more generally, it is important to understand whether short-term incentive offers can have lasting effects (positive or negative) on long term behavior. Indeed, it is possible that long-term effects could be more important than short-term effects on the motivations and behavior of donors. To our knowledge, this is the first paper to comprehensively examine long term effects of a reward offer on donation behavior.

To assess long-term effects, we compare subjects' donation behavior before and after the intervention. For each subject, we have data on the pre-intervention donation history for up to 4 years, and for 20, 17, 14 and 9 months after the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> intervention periods, respectively. We limit the pre- and post-intervention window to nine months before and after the intervention since that lets us use data from all four periods and since the longer the time horizon the noisier the data (e.g., increased likelihood of subjects

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<sup>29</sup> The higher displacement among subjects with past history is consistent with the evidence reported in Table 3 that subjects without past donation history donated at less locations in the past (1.9) and were more likely to have only donated at one location (55%) than donors with past history (3 and 29% respectively); thus donors with past history have a history of more flexibility in the locations where they donate, and should be more prone to displacement effects.

moving outside the region). We compare subject donations in the  $N$  weeks preceding an intervention (“pre”) to donations in the  $N$  weeks after the intervention (“post”), with  $N = 13, 26$  and  $39$ .<sup>30</sup>

We examine two outcomes: whether a subject donated and the total number of donations. The latter outcome is only used for the 26 and 39 week intervals because a subject who donated at an intervention drive would only be eligible to donate at most once within the 13 weeks pre- and post-intervention. We present results for the subjects who donated at one of the intervention drives during the intervention periods. We also explored the long-term effects of the rewards on subjects who did not donate at the intervention sites and find no significant changes in their post intervention donation behavior compared to their pre intervention behavior. We compare behavior between those receiving and not receiving the reward, and we further distinguish between the subjects who were and were not informed in advance of the reward offer. We thus present analyses comparing subjects who are no longer a random sample. Subjects who donated at the intervention No reward and Surprise drives should be, *ceteris paribus*, identical to the subject population who donated during the intervention period (i.e., as reported in Table 4 they are more likely to be age 50+ male, made a donation in the past 6 or 6 to 12 months and donated 10+ times overall compared to those who did not donate during the intervention). On the other hand, the characteristics of the informed subjects who donated at the Advertised reward drives will differ from those who donated at the No reward and Surprise drives on the characteristics that were significantly different in the heterogeneity interaction terms documented in Table 8. However, fixed subject effects will control for these differences, and thus the remaining differences between the subjects who donated who were uninformed of the rewards (at the No reward and Surprise drives) and who were the informed (at the Advertised drives) reflects unobserved differences in motivation that are due to the reward offer. The long-term estimates presented here thus capture how the effect of rewards affected long-term behavior due to these unobserved differences.

The subjects are therefore divided into three categories: (a) those who donated at a No reward drive and were not contacted for any Advertised reward drive during the intervention period; these subjects were unaware of the intervention reward being offered and did not receive any reward; (b) those who donated at an Advertised reward drive and were informed in advance of the reward through the ARC’s formal channels; these subjects were the most likely subjects to be aware of the reward offer and received the reward when they donated; and (c) those who donated at a Surprise reward drive and were not contacted for any Advertised reward drive; these subjects were unaware of the intervention reward being offered but received a

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<sup>30</sup> We use weeks since most drives at each location occur on the same day of the week and since most individuals donate at the same location over time. The number of weeks of eligibility is identical in the pre and post periods; subjects who donated at an intervention drive could not have donated eight weeks prior to or after the intervention.

reward as a surprise gift when they donated.<sup>31</sup> Tables 10 and 11 compare group (b) to (a) and (c) to (a), respectively. To make these comparisons, we estimate:

$$Y_{it} = \alpha + \beta POST + \delta_2 POST * TR\_COND + \lambda X_{it} + \eta_i + \varepsilon_{it}, \quad (4)$$

where  $Y_{it}$  is the outcome for subject  $i$  in period  $t$  (where  $t$  = pre or post intervention). The regressions include individual fixed effects ( $\eta_i$ ), and the standard errors are clustered at the individual level. *POST* is a dummy for the period after the intervention that captures any seasonal changes or trends in donations; the coefficient on *POST* will measure the change in donations for the No reward control group (a). *TR\_COND* indicates the treatment condition for subject  $i$  where  $i$  could be in condition (b) (results presented in Table 10) or condition (c) (results presented in Table 11) compared to subjects in the omitted No reward condition (a). Since we estimate individual fixed effects and each subject was only in one condition, the regressions omit the main effect for the variable *TR\_COND*. The critical parameter estimate reported in the tables is the interaction *POST\*TR\_COND* that measures the change in donation likelihood (or number of donations) from the pre to the post intervention period for subjects in the treatment (b or c) compared to subjects in the No reward control condition (a).

**No reward vs. Advertised reward:** For subjects with past history at an intervention site, Panel A of Table 10 shows a significant decrease in donations 13 weeks after than before a donation at an intervention drive for those who donated at the Advertised as compared to those who donated at No reward drives. The average reduction was 12 percentage points from a baseline donation rate of 48%, and a slight increase in the post-intervention donation probability for those who donated at the No reward drives. The negative effect was increasing in the value of the reward, and particularly strong (and statistically significant) for the \$15 reward where nearly 20 percentage points fewer donations occurred in the three months after the intervention, or a 40% fall relative to the baseline return rate in the control condition. There was no significant systematic effect for longer periods of time, however. Panel A also shows that for subjects with no past history at the sites there was no significant difference in donations after versus before the donation at the intervention drive. Panel B indicates that for both subjects with and without past history there was essentially no significant change in the number of donations in the 26 and 39 weeks after than before the intervention date for subjects who donated at the Advertised than No reward drives. We also explored whether the intertemporal substitution effect differed according to the individuals' degree of extrinsic motivation defined by the share of previous donations made at drives offering rewards (see section 4.1.2 above), and we found some evidence that that is indeed the case: the largest post-intervention drop in donations was found among subjects with a high propensity to have donated at drives with material rewards (column 1 of Table 12a).

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<sup>31</sup> In principle, this group could include also the individuals who donated at Advertised reward drives and were not informed of the presence of rewards. However, since at least some of these individuals could have known about the incentives in advance (as from the findings in section 4.1.2), we excluded them from this analysis.

These findings are consistent with subjects with past history adjusting the timing of donations to obtain the rewards rather than rewards causing a permanent negative effect on motivation. First, although individuals are, *ceteris paribus*, more likely to incur the same rescheduling costs regardless of the dollar value of the rewards, the benefits of rescheduling are greater the higher the reward value. Second, and more importantly, since the negative effect disappears after 13 weeks it is unlikely to reflect a permanent change in motivation.

**No reward vs. Surprise reward:** Table 11 presents the estimates for subjects who received a reward unexpectedly. Panel A shows a significant decline in post-intervention donations for subjects who received a surprise reward relative to their pre-intervention level compared to the change in behavior for subjects who donated at No reward drives. The overall decline remained significant for the full 39 weeks that we observed donations. Although there is are fewer donations among the No reward subjects for the 26 and 39 week post intervention periods of -7.1 and -6.1 percentage points, respectively, there is an additional decline for subjects who donated at the Surprise drives that was even larger, -10.7 and -8.6 percentage points, respectively. Panel B further shows that there is a significantly larger decline in the total number of donations among subjects who donated at the Advertised than No reward drives 39 weeks after than before the intervention, and the magnitude is quite substantial; while subjects who donated at the No reward drives donated on average 0.13 less units of blood after than before the intervention, subjects who donated at the Surprise reward drives donated an additional 0.35 units less. Thus, the decline was roughly three times larger for the subjects at the Surprise drive and represents approximately a 15% additional drop in donations from the pre-donation level of 2.15 units. These negative significant effects, however, are detected only for subjects who had a previous history at the intervention sites; for subjects with no history at the interventions we detect no significant difference in donations after than before the intervention period between subjects who donated at the Surprise and No reward drives.

The first conclusion from Table 11 (and Table 12b) is that there is no evidence of reciprocity; if subjects who received a gift by surprise wanted to reciprocate, they could have responded by donating more, not less, in the future. While this result is at odds with many laboratory experiments examining reciprocity, it is consistent with the lack of support for reciprocity behavior reported in some recent field evidence in labor markets and charitable fund raising (e.g., Gneezy and List, 2006). There are at least two possible mechanisms that could explain the fall in donations after the surprise gift. First, some subjects might have found the presence of the rewards for donating repugnant (Roth, 2007), and led to the post-intervention decline in donations. However, as reported above, regardless of whether subjects were informed in advance of the rewards and regardless of the dollar value, almost all subjects took the gift cards and spent almost the full amount within a short period of time. If they were opposed to receiving a gift for making a donation, they could have refused to take them or not use them. Further, the results from Table 12b indicate that the post-

intervention decline was driven by individuals with a high propensity to have previously donated at drives with material rewards (columns 1-3 of Table 12b). This evidence reduces the likelihood of a second possible explanation that the unexpected presence of the rewards led to a subsequent reduction in intrinsic motivation; we would have expected the decline in donations to have disproportionately affected subjects with smaller extrinsic motivation (and presumably higher intrinsic motivation) if receiving a surprise reward has a negative effect on motivation, but we observe the opposite effect.

### 4.3 Cost-Benefit Analysis

We use our results to quantify the cost of rewards per each extra unit of blood collected when a reward was offered. Since we find no evidence that offering rewards significantly affected the number of donations after the intervention (with the exception of Surprise reward drives, which we do not consider here because giving reward by surprise is not a practice of the ARC – Northern Ohio Blood Services), we only include the extra units collected during the intervention period. We also only consider parameter estimates that are statistically significant, and assign a value of zero to the others.

The analysis, reported in Table 13, uses the information from Table 9. Columns 1 and 4 in Table 9 show that 13.2% and 0.08% of contacted subjects with and without prior history at the intervention sites, respectively, donated when uninformed of the rewards. This result is reported in the first row of Table 13 that assumes 100 individuals are contacted. The third row in Table 13 reports the additional units of blood collected when the reward was offered (Columns 3 and 6 in Table 9). Since the ARC has to give the reward to all donors presenting, regardless of whether they donated, we need to convert the estimates on units collected to donors presenting in order to determine the number and costs of the rewards that have to be given to donors. Our past work (Lacetera et al., 2012) found that the blood units collected were 13% less than the number of presenting donors due to deferrals, regardless of the presence or cost of the reward. Table 13 thus shows the donors presenting to be the units collected times 1.149 ( $=1.00/0.87$ ); Rows 2, 4 and 5 show the estimated number of donors who presented when no incentives were offered, the extra donors presenting when incentives were offered and the total number of donors presenting when incentives were offered, respectively. (We did not include the extra donations (by lapsed and new donors) due to spillover effects because the small numbers of Advertised reward drives for each dollar value make it difficult to separate these effects. Inclusion of these effects would lower the estimated cost of incentives to attract each additional donations by on average about 25%. Moreover, to the extent new donors become regular donors, the estimated costs would be even lower.) Row 6 indicates the total cost of the rewards per 100 contacted individuals, i.e. the product of donors presenting and dollar value of the gift cards, and Row 7 reports the additional cost per extra unit of blood collected. For individuals with past history at the intervention location, offering the \$10 reward was more cost effective than offering the \$15 reward. It was more cost effective since the \$15 reward attracted more individuals to donate at the intervention drive that had to be given the



reward, which was more expensive, and since the number of extra units collected was not different between the two reward amounts for donations everywhere that adjusts for the larger displacement when the \$15 rewards were offered. The \$15 offer to subjects with no past donation history at the intervention sites was the most cost effective; its advantage derives from attracting the greatest number of extra donors (0.45 per hundred) relative to those who would have donated without the reward (0.08 per hundred).<sup>32</sup>

Estimating the benefit from collecting one extra unit of blood is more difficult. One approach is to estimate a lower bound based on the amount that is paid for each unit of blood. The Medicare hospital outpatient payment rate for a unit of whole blood for transfusion was set in 2010 at \$206.25 (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, 2010).<sup>33</sup> This suggests that the \$10 and \$15 rewards for people with previous history and the \$15 rewards for people without history are highly cost effective. Another approach is to calculate the value of the potential uses of the additional blood collected. For example, about 7 units of blood are needed for brain surgery, hip replacement and for cancer treatment on average per patient in a week, as well as for certain organ transplants (Canadian Blood Service, 2011). To fully capture the benefits, we would need to further determine the expected impact of these procedures on the life expectancy and quality of the patients multiplied by the dollar value of those extra (quality-adjusted) years of life to the recipient and to the rest of society.<sup>34</sup> Although there may be potentially large variation in these expected benefits, it seems reasonable to assume that the benefits will far outweigh the extra costs we have estimated.

## 5. Summary and Discussion

Titmuss' (1971) claim that offering material rewards for blood donations might backfire and lower donations has motivated many studies on the impact of explicit rewards on several intrinsically motivated activities. In particular, concerns have been raised that explicit incentives for pro-social activities can be counter-productive and lower supply of these tasks. Recent evidence mainly based on aggregate data has shown otherwise, with an overall positive effect of incentives. However, this evidence has not presented a comprehensive picture within the same setting of whether and how incentives affect pro-social behavior, including the shape of the supply curve, heterogeneity in individual responses, spatial and temporal responses and social spillovers that motivate others. The natural field experiment presented in this paper fills this gap.

We found that providing economic rewards led to a large and significant increase in the propensity of subjects to donate, and in a very standard way: the effect was monotonically increasing in the amount of the

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<sup>32</sup> We are not considering mailing costs because they are incurred irrespective of the presence of rewards. We are also ignoring the marginal costs of the ARC operations to collect each additional unit. We assume these are relatively small given the scale of the ARC's operations and low variable costs for the equipment and storage.

<sup>33</sup> Personal communications with medical professionals suggest that the amount that hospitals bill to patients and insurers when performing transfusions can reach about \$1,000 per blood unit.

<sup>34</sup> Note that one unit of blood collected provides a full unit of red cells and several partial units of plasma, platelets and cryoprecipitate. Up to three of these four products can be derived from one unit and used on multiple patients.

incentives. In addition to this direct effect, we observed that the incentives caused an indirect effect in which subjects who were offered rewards motivated others to donate. The rewards also led to some spatial and short-term inter-temporal displacement. Finally, we documented a longer-term decline in donations among subjects who received a gift by surprise.

The results have some key implications for blood collection agencies as well as for policymakers and organizations interested in enhancing the supply of blood and other health-related products whose availability relies on a vast and disperse set of (mostly volunteer) suppliers. First, although spatial substitution in a given period indicates that part of the expenditures for the rewards just displace donations that would have occurred anyway in the same period, inter-temporal substitution could enhance efficiency in blood collection or in any other pro-social activity for which demand varies over time; incentives might be an effective way of reallocating donations toward periods of greater shortage. Second, the negative long-term effect on donations after the surprise gifts were given to donors implies that it is preferable to inform people in advance of the presence of rewards.

We conclude by discussing some directions for future research. First, almost all of the subjects studied in this paper had all donated at least once in the past. Although studying existing donors is a natural starting point to study the effect of incentives on donations, future research can examine whether incentives can be used to induce non-donors to donate, and potentially become long-term donors. Note, however, that people who have never donated are, *ceteris paribus*, presumably less intrinsically motivated than current donors, and therefore it might be problematic (if appropriate at all) to test for any tradeoff between extrinsic and intrinsic incentives. Also, our results hold across different levels of past experience including among subjects who had donated the least (e.g. just once in the past).<sup>35</sup> Furthermore, the various mechanisms, heterogeneities, and long-term effects studied for the first time in this paper are more appropriate to analyze in a population already exposed to the activity.

Second, in this paper we assessed the effect of incentives in a pro-social environment where donors are used to receiving offers. This has the important advantage that subjects are less likely to interpret the rewards as “unusual,” and possibly to react to this aspect rather than to the economic value of the incentives per se, which would make the interpretation of any results problematic. An interesting question is also whether incentives would have similar positive effects if they were offered in a setting where they have never been offered. Third, from a policy perspective regarding the efficacy of offering incentives in the long term, studying a context in which donors are persistently exposed to reward offers would be appropriate for understanding if the policy is sustainable over time. For instance, it is possible that reward offers could have negative effects the first time individuals are exposed to them, but could have positive effects in the long run

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<sup>35</sup> The fact that individuals might have already been exposed to a pro-social activity, possibly also entailing some economic benefit, is actually common in the literature. For example, in controlled experiments on incentives for prosocial behavior one cannot know whether subjects have never been offered rewards before. Or, when studying charitable giving, most of those who donate to charities in the United States and elsewhere enjoy a tax benefit.

as individuals get used to receiving rewards, as our results suggest in the current environment, or whether individuals would habituate to the presence of incentives and so donation levels would revert to levels without reward offers.

Fourth, we focused on incentives with a financial value in this paper, but other motivators and actions (e.g., social recognition, reducing waiting times, rewarding hosts or ARC representatives, increasing the saliency of the benefits to the recipients of the donations, reducing the social distance between donors and recipients, or encouraging donors to actively focus on the donation decision)<sup>36</sup> could be used to induce more blood donations, and it would be interesting – from both academic and policy points of view - to assess how these policies compare to those of the economic incentives.

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<sup>36</sup> For instance, Stutzer, Goette and Zehnder (2011) find that active-decision reflection increases donations among individuals who have not thought about the importance of blood donations. See also Ashraf et al. (2011) and Lacetera and Macis (2010a) on the impact of social image incentives.

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## Figures

**Figure 1: Example of the ARC flyers used in the experiment**

The drive locations have been redacted for confidentiality reasons. This flyer was received by the individuals informed of rewards, and the Advertised reward drive of which they were informed is the one in the bottom-left corner (the position within the drive was the same within a given county, but varied in a random way across counties for different drives). The contacted individuals uninformed of the rewards would receive the exact same flyer, with the exclusion of the information about the reward at the intervention drive highlighted (by us) in the flyer reported here. A flyer communicating about a Surprise drive would, again, include information about the host, location and time of a drive, but not on the rewards.

  
**American Red Cross**

**County**  
**Blood Drive Schedule – December 2009**  
If you are interested in donating Double Red Cells, please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE to find a site near you

<div style="background-color: gray; width: 150px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <p style="text-align: center;">Every Wednesday 10:00 AM to 3:30 PM</p>	<div style="background-color: gray; width: 150px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <p style="text-align: center;">December 3, 10, &amp; 17 New Hours - 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">December 31 Special Holiday Hours 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM</p>	<div style="background-color: gray; width: 150px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <p style="text-align: center;">Saturday, December 5 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All that come to the blood drive will receive a continental breakfast or lunch and a special treat bag courtesy of the Center for Pastoral Leadership.</p>
<div style="background-color: gray; width: 150px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, December 6 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM Light Refreshments will be served!</p>	<div style="background-color: gray; width: 150px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday, December 9 12:30 PM – 5:30 PM</p>	<div style="background-color: gray; width: 150px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <p style="text-align: center;">Friday, December 11 1:00 PM – 7:00 PM</p>
<div style="background-color: gray; width: 150px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <p style="text-align: center;">Friday, December 18 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM</p> <div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"><p style="text-align: center;">Come to donate and choose \$16 worth of gift cards for Target, Giant Eagle, or BP Gas Stations.</p></div>	<div style="background-color: gray; width: 150px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <p style="text-align: center;">Monday, December 28 12:00 PM – 7:00 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Join us for a variety of gifts and raffle prizes!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pound for a Pint – Come to donate blood and receive a pound of coffee and a coupon for a free donut from Dunkin' Donuts.</i></p> <div style="text-align: center;"></div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>You can make the difference by adding one more gift to your holiday list this year. Please schedule your blood or platelet donation this month and give the gift of life!</i></p>

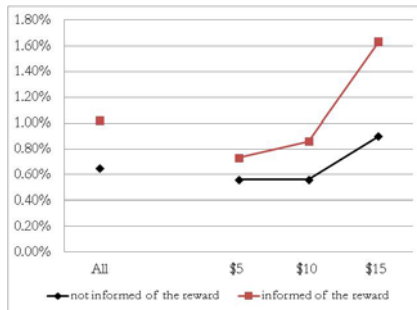
*If you would like more information on sponsoring a blood drive,  
please call*

Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental permission in some states), meet weight and height requirements (110 pounds or more, depending on their height) and are in general good health may be eligible to donate blood. Please bring your Red Cross blood donor card or other form of positive ID when you come to donate. For more information call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543) or visit GiveLife.org.

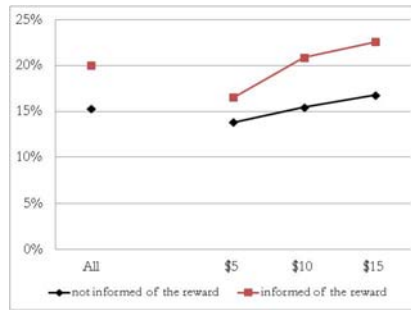
**Figure 2: Percent of subjects who donated at the Advertised Reward drives**

The graphs show the percent of subjects contacted for an Advertised reward drive who donated blood at that drive who were not informed of the reward (black diamonds) and who were informed of the reward (red squares). The overall donations are shown on the left side. The right side shows the donations broken into the specific reward dollar values.

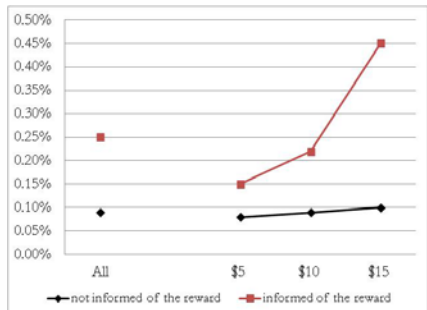
**2a: All subjects contacted (N = 92,722 individual-period observations)**



**2b: Subjects who had previously donated at intervention sites (N = 3,516 individual-period observations)**



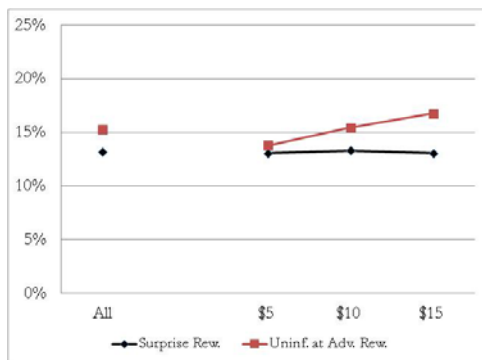
**2c: Subjects who had not previously donated at intervention sites (N = 89,206 individual-period observations)**



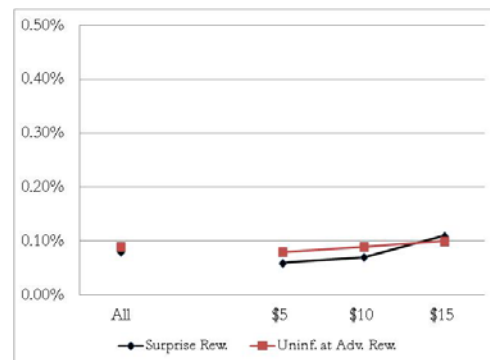
**Figure 3: Percentage of subjects, uninformed of the rewards at Advertised Reward drives, and at Surprise Reward drives, who donated at the treatment drives**

The black diamonds report the percent of subjects informed of a Surprise reward drive who donated at that drive. The red squares report the percent of subjects informed of an Advertised reward drives, but not informed by the ARC of the reward offer, who donated at that drive.

**3a: Subjects who previously donated at intervention sites (N = 2,939 individual-period observations)**



**3b: Subjects who had not previously donated at intervention sites (N = 79,317 individual-period observations)**



## Tables

**Table 1a: Experimental design – effect identified by each type of drive**

The shadowed areas show the different sources in which subjects in each condition could have learned about the incentives. Subjects in the Advertised reward condition who were informed by the ARC (condition 1) could have heard about the incentives through the flyers, from other informed donors or potentially informally from ARC representatives or drive hosts. Subjects in the Advertised reward condition who were not informed by the ARC's formal channels (condition 2) could have heard about the incentives from an informed donor or potentially informally from ARC representatives or drive hosts. Subjects in the Surprise reward condition (condition 3) could only have heard about the incentives potentially from ARC representatives or drive hosts. The difference in donations between conditions (1) and (2) estimates the direct reward communication effect at Advertised reward drives. The difference in response between (2) and (3) estimates the indirect donor-to-donor communication effect. The difference between (1) and (3) estimates the direct reward communication effect excluding potential donor-to-donor communication effects. The difference between (3) and (4) during the intervention lets us verify whether our protocols were followed regarding no informal host/representative communication with donors. More importantly, the No reward condition (4) lets us estimate the long term effect of offering a reward by comparing donors at the intervention drives in (1) vs. (4), and of giving a surprise reward by comparing donors at the intervention drives in (3) vs. (4).

		Potential Effects		
Treatment Condition		Direct incentive effect	Donor-to-Donor communication	Rep-to-Donor, Host-to-Donor communication
(1)	Advertised reward drive & Subjects informed of rewards			
(2)	Advertised reward drive & Subjects uninformed of Rewards			
(3)	Surprise reward drive (No subject informed of rewards)			
(4)	No Reward drive			

**Table 1b: Experimental Design – type of drives and sample size**

The figures in each cell indicate to the number of drives and subjects contacted for each treatment.

		Level of treatment			
Treatment Condition		None	\$5	\$10	\$15
(1)	Advertised reward drive & Subjects informed of rewards (26 drives total)		9 drives 17,847 subjects contacted	9 drives 15,849 subjects contacted	9 drives 12,738 subjects contacted
(2)	Advertised reward drive & Subjects uninformed of rewards (26 drives total)		9 drives 17,986 subjects contacted	9 drives 15,744 subjects contacted	9 drives 12,558 subjects contacted
(3)	Surprise reward drive (No subject informed of rewards) (9 drives total)		3 drives 10,846 subjects contacted	3 drives 12,515 subjects contacted	3 drives 12,607 subjects contacted
(4)	No Reward	36 drives 128,820 subjects			

**Table 2: Characteristics of the field experiment sites before and during the intervention**

The table presents characteristics of the 71 experimental drive locations measured in the reference year (before the first intervention wave) and on the intervention date.

	No Reward		Advertised Reward		Surprise Reward	
<b>Pre-Intervention</b>						
	Mean	Std. dev	Mean	Std. dev	Mean	Std. dev
N. of drives in reference year	5.56	(1.38)	5.70	(1.30)	6.00	(0.71)
Fraction of drives with incentives	0.21	(0.19)	0.24	(0.18)	0.25	(0.19)
Average drive length (hours)	5.22	(0.76)	5.29	(0.62)	4.98	(0.77)
Average N. of donors presenting	30.68	(10.20)	32.05	(9.63)	27.38	(7.97)
Average N. of units of blood collected	26.69	(8.94)	28.07	(8.34)	23.79	(7.59)
Donors deferred as a share of presenting	0.13	(0.04)	0.12	(0.03)	0.14	(0.04)
<b>At intervention drive</b>						
Drive length	5.18	(0.90)	5.08	(0.78)	4.89	(0.78)
N. of drives in flyer			15.35	(6.42)	13.67	(4.95)
N. of drives with ARC rewards in flyer			8.50	(5.16)	6.89	(2.52)
N	36		26		9	



**Table 3: Individuals contacted for the intervention drives -- Descriptive statistics**

The table presents characteristics for the total unique 128,690 individual-period subjects contacted for an intervention drive. Note that approximately 50% of the subjects were contacted for exactly one reward treatment drive. The remainder, who were contacted for more than one treatment drive, by design, would always have been in a different condition each period they were contacted. See section 3.2 for details. For the last variable (i.e., the average fraction of times that donors have received a material reward in the past four years) the sample is limited to donors with at least four donations in the past four years. See section 4.1.2 for more details about this variable.

	All individuals contacted			Individuals with previous donation experience at the intervention site			Individuals without previous donation experience at the intervention site		
	Advertised reward		Surprise reward	Advertised reward		Surprise reward	Advertised reward		Surprise reward
	Informed of reward	Not. Inf. of reward		Informed of reward	Not. Inf. of reward		Informed of reward	Not. Inf. of reward	
<b>Female</b>	0.52	0.52	0.51	0.49	0.50	0.48	0.52	0.53	0.51
<b>O-Negative blood type</b>	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.09	0.09	0.09
<b>Age</b>									
16-25	0.31	0.31	0.30	0.13	0.14	0.14	0.32	0.32	0.31
26-50	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.36	0.35	0.32	0.38	0.38	0.38
51+	0.31	0.30	0.32	0.51	0.51	0.54	0.30	0.30	0.31
<b>Total N. of previous donations</b>									
1-4	0.53	0.53	0.53	0.22	0.23	0.23	0.54	0.54	0.54
5-9	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.19	0.19	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.16
10+	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.59	0.58	0.60	0.30	0.30	0.30
<b>Time of last donation prior to intervention</b>									
within 6 months	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.57	0.57	0.59	0.37	0.37	0.37
between 6 and 12 months	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.20	0.19	0.20	0.28	0.28	0.28
more than 12 months	0.34	0.35	0.35	0.23	0.24	0.21	0.35	0.35	0.35
<b>Number of sites where donated in the past</b>									
Mean	2.0	2.0	1.8	3.1	2.9	3.1	2.0	1.9	1.7
Share donated at one site only	0.55	0.55	0.64	0.29	0.33	0.29	0.56	0.56	0.65
<b>N</b>	46,433	46,289	35,968	1,806	1,710	1,229	44,627	44,579	34,739
<b>Fraction of times received material reward in past 4 years</b>	0.46	0.46	0.43	0.38	0.39	0.43	0.27	0.27	0.26
<b>N</b>	17,496	17,289	11,772	1,283	1,186	876	16,213	16,103	10,896

**Table 4: The effect of the incentives at the Advertised reward drives**

The sample includes all subjects who were contacted for an Advertised reward drive. The dependent variable is equal to 1 if a subject has donated blood at the intervention drive, and 0 otherwise. The estimates are from linear probability models. Intervention period fixed effects are present in all specifications (except when drive fixed effects are included), and robust standard errors are reported in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. The estimated coefficients were multiplied by 100 so they represent percentage changes.

Dependent Variable	1 if donated at intervention drive, 0 otherwise								
	Sample	Subjects contacted for an Advertised reward drive							
		All			Previous history at site		No previous history at site		
		Mean of dep. var. (for Uninformed subjects)			15.32 %		0.09 %		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Informed of Reward	0.33*** (0.06)			4.55*** (1.23)			0.16*** (0.03)		
Informed of \$5 Reward		0.10 (0.07)	0.15* (0.08)		1.37 (1.66)	3.21* (1.93)		0.05* (0.03)	0.06* (0.04)
Informed of \$10 Reward		0.32*** (0.08)	0.31*** (0.09)		4.89** (1.94)	5.57** (2.30)		0.13*** (0.04)	0.14*** (0.05)
Informed of \$15 Reward		0.67*** (0.11)	0.61*** (0.13)		7.29*** (1.73)	4.65** (2.08)		0.36*** (0.06)	0.34*** (0.07)
Female	-0.17*** (0.06)	-0.16*** (0.06)	-0.17*** (0.06)	-2.55** (1.24)	-2.46** (1.24)	-2.03 (1.23)	-0.01 (0.03)	-0.01 (0.03)	-0.01 (0.03)
Age 26-50	-0.00 (0.05)	-0.00 (0.05)	-0.00 (0.06)	2.59 (1.67)	2.65 (1.66)	3.38** (1.69)	0.06** (0.03)	0.07** (0.03)	0.06** (0.03)
Age 50+	0.33*** (0.08)	0.33*** (0.08)	0.35*** (0.08)	7.23*** (1.75)	7.42*** (1.74)	9.09*** (1.77)	0.16*** (0.05)	0.16*** (0.05)	0.16*** (0.05)
O-Negative blood type	-0.08 (0.10)	-0.08 (0.10)	-0.07 (0.10)	-0.51 (2.04)	-0.33 (2.04)	-0.20 (1.96)	-0.06 (0.04)	-0.05 (0.04)	-0.05 (0.04)
Between 5 and 9 past donations	-0.26*** (0.07)	-0.26*** (0.07)	-0.26*** (0.07)	-1.99 (1.64)	-1.95 (1.64)	-1.57 (1.65)	0.01 (0.04)	0.01 (0.04)	0.00 (0.04)
More than 10 past donations	0.23*** (0.08)	0.22*** (0.08)	0.20*** (0.08)	3.40** (1.57)	3.31** (1.57)	3.12** (1.59)	0.06 (0.04)	0.05 (0.04)	0.04 (0.05)
Last donation within past 6 months	0.95*** (0.06)	0.96*** (0.06)	0.96*** (0.06)	18.46*** (1.28)	18.44*** (1.28)	19.19*** (1.29)	0.26*** (0.03)	0.26*** (0.03)	0.25*** (0.03)
Last donation between 6 and 12 months	0.09** (0.04)	0.09** (0.04)	0.09** (0.04)	2.38* (1.32)	2.39* (1.32)	3.61*** (1.36)	0.06** (0.02)	0.06** (0.02)	0.06** (0.02)
Previous history at site	17.19*** (0.63)	17.17*** (0.63)	16.95*** (0.64)						
P-value of:									
\$10 Informed ≥ \$5 Informed		0.01	0.09		0.06	0.22		0.05	0.08
\$15 Informed ≥ \$10 Informed		0.00	0.02		0.15	0.61		0.00	0.01
\$15 Informed ≥ \$5 Informed		0.00	0.00		0.00	0.31		0.00	0.00
Drive FEs	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
Observations	92,722	92,722	92,722	3,516	3,516	3,516	89,206	89,206	89,206
R-Squared	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.09	0.09	0.12	0.002	0.002	0.002

**Table 5: Donor-to-Donor Effects; Uninformed at Advertised reward drives vs. Uninformed at Surprise reward drives**

This table compares donations of subjects contacted but not informed of the rewards at the Advertised and Surprise reward drives. The dependent variable is equal to 1 if a subject has donated blood at the intervention drive, and 0 otherwise. The estimates are from linear probability models. Controls for gender (dummy for female), age (dummies for 25-49 and 50+), O-Negative blood type, total donations to date (dummies for 2-9 and 10+) and most recent donation (within the last 6 months or in the last 6 to 12 months) as well as period fixed effects are included in all the regressions. Robust standard errors are reported in round brackets, and clustered standard errors for the 35 drive-level clusters are reported in square brackets. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. The estimated coefficients were multiplied by 100 so they represent percentage changes.

Dependent Variable	1 if donated at intervention drive, 0 otherwise			
	Uninformed Subjects (either at Surp. or Adv. Reward drives)			
	Previous history at site		No previous history at site	
Sample				
Mean of dep. var. (for Uninformed subjects)	13.18 %		0.08 %	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Uninformed at Advertised Reward Drives	2.37 (1.30)* [1.98]		0.004 (0.02) [0.02]	
Uninformed at \$5 Advertised Reward Drives		0.77 (1.68) [2.78]		-0.005 (0.03) [0.02]
Uninformed at \$10 Advertised Reward Drives		1.76 (1.84) [3.22]		0.003 (0.03) [0.04]
Uninformed at \$15 Advertised Reward Drives		4.39 (1.78)** [2.71]		0.017 (0.03) [0.03]
P-value of:				
\$10 Adv.Rew. ≥ \$5 Adv.Rew.		0.40		0.41
\$15 Adv.Rew. ≥ \$10 Adv.Rew.		0.25		0.37
\$15 Adv.Rew. ≥ \$5 Adv.Rew.		0.16		0.26
Observations	2,939	2,939	79,317	79,317
Adjusted R-squared	0.07	0.07	0.001	0.001

**Table 6: Distribution of Not Contacted Donors at Intervention Drives**

This table reports which intervention drives individuals donated at who were not contacted by the ARC. We distinguish two types of non-contacted donors: first-time donors and those with some past donations.

	No Reward Drives	Surprise Reward Drives	Advertised Reward Drives
N. of drives	36	9	26
Share of total N. of drives	50.7%	12.7%	36.6%
		<u>All non-contacted donors</u>	
N. of non-contacted donors	148	28	152
Share of total N. of non-contacted donors	45.1%	8.5%	46.3%
Difference			<b>+9.7%</b>
Binomial test p-value			0.01
		<u>First-time donors</u>	
N. of non-contacted donors	56	5	47
Share of total N. of non-contacted donors	51.9%	4.6%	43.5%
Difference			<b>+6.9%</b>
Binomial test p-value			0.07
		<u>Non first-time donors</u>	
N. of non-contacted donors	92	23	105
Share of total N. of non-contacted donors	41.8%	10.5%	47.7%
Difference			<b>+11.1%</b>
Binomial test p-value			0.01

**Table 7: The total direct effect of the incentives**

This table compares the donations of informed of reward subjects at the Advertised reward drives with the donations of subjects contacted for Surprise reward drives. The dependent variable is equal to 1 if a subject has donated blood at the intervention drive, and 0 otherwise. The estimates are from linear probability models. Controls for gender (dummy for female), age (dummies for 25-49 and 50+), O-Negative blood type, total donations to date (dummies for 2-9 and 10+) and most recent donation (within the last 6 months or in the last 6 to 12 months) as well as period fixed effects are included in all the regressions. Robust standard errors are reported in round brackets, and clustered standard errors for the 35 drive-level clusters are reported in square brackets. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. The estimated coefficients were multiplied by 100 so they represent percentage changes.

Dependent Variable	1 if donated at intervention drive, 0 otherwise			
	Subjects informed of reward at Adv. or uninformed at Surp. drives			
	Previous history at site		No previous history at site	
Sample				
Mean of dep. var. (for Uninformed subjects)	13.18 %		0.08 %	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Informed of Reward	6.72 (1.33)*** [2.04]***		0.17 (0.03)*** [0.05]***	
Informed of \$5 Reward		3.45 (1.74)** [2.48]		0.06 (0.03)* [0.04]
Informed of \$10 Reward		6.87 (2.01)*** [3.01]**		0.14 (0.04)*** [0.08]*
Informed of \$15 Reward		9.47 (1.79)*** [2.91]***		0.37 (0.06)*** [0.11]***
P-value of:				
\$10 Informed ≥ \$5 Informed		0.16		0.17
\$15 Informed ≥ \$10 Informed		0.25		0.04
\$15 Informed ≥ \$5 Informed		0.05		0.00
Observations	3,035	3,035	79,367	79,367
Adjusted R-squared	0.09	0.09	0.002	0.002

**Table 8: Testing for Heterogeneous Effects**

This table compares the donations of informed of reward subjects at the Advertised reward drives with the donations of subjects contacted for Surprise reward drives. The dependent variable is equal to 1 if a subject has donated blood at the intervention drive, and 0 otherwise. The estimates are from linear probability models. Period fixed effects are included in all specifications. Robust standard errors are reported in round brackets, and clustered standard errors for the 35 drive-level clusters are reported in square brackets. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. The estimated coefficients were multiplied by 100 so they represent percentage changes.

Dependent Variable	1 if donated at intervention drive, 0 otherwise											
	Subjects informed of reward at Adv. or uninformed at Surp. drives											
	Previous history at site						No previous history at site					
Sample	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
Informed of Reward	7.93 (1.96)*** [2.76]***	5.65 (2.63)** [2.55]**	6.66 (1.41)*** [2.05]***	7.00 (2.17)*** [2.56]***	2.67 (1.65) [1.91]	11.15 (5.52)** [6.12]*	0.18 (0.04)*** [0.05]***	0.04 (0.04) [0.04]	0.17 (0.03)*** [0.05]***	0.06 (0.03)* [0.04]	0.02 (0.02) [0.02]	0.14 (0.10) [0.13]
Female	-1.82 (1.88) [1.27]	-3.31 (1.33)** [1.31]**	-3.30 (1.33)** [1.31]**	-3.30 (1.33)** [1.31]**	-3.38 (1.33)** [1.33]**	-4.28 (1.67)** [1.72]**	0.04 (0.03) [0.03]	0.03 (0.03) [0.03]	0.03 (0.03) [0.03]	0.03 (0.03) [0.03]	0.03 (0.03) [0.03]	0.03 (0.07) [0.06]
Age 26-50	0.24 (1.82) [1.58]	0.37 (2.32) [2.65]	0.25 (1.82) [1.57]	0.26 (1.82) [1.57]	0.44 (1.82) [1.58]	0.44 (3.03) [2.87]	0.03 (0.03) [0.04]	-0.06 (0.03)* [0.02]***	0.03 (0.03) [0.04]	0.03 (0.03) [0.03]	0.02 (0.03) [0.03]	0.02 (0.11) [0.12]
Age 50+	4.42 (1.89)** [1.76]**	3.21 (2.34) [2.32]	4.42 (1.89)** [1.76]**	4.41 (1.89)** [1.75]**	4.61 (1.89)** [1.71]**	3.15 (2.99) [2.85]	0.15 (0.05)*** [0.04]***	0.02 (0.05) [0.04]	0.15 (0.05)*** [0.04]***	0.15 (0.05)*** [0.04]***	0.14 (0.05)*** [0.04]***	0.19 (0.13) [0.12]
O-Negative blood type	-3.87 (2.01)* [2.26]*	-3.89 (2.01)* [2.26]*	-4.28 (2.85) [2.84]	-3.93 (2.01)* [2.26]*	-3.95 (2.01)** [2.26]*	-3.91 (2.42) [2.81]	-0.03 (0.05) [0.06]	-0.03 (0.05) [0.06]	0.00 (0.06) [0.05]	-0.03 (0.05) [0.06]	-0.03 (0.05) [0.06]	-0.06 (0.10) [0.12]
Between 5 and 9 past donations	-0.11 (1.73) [1.76]	-0.04 (1.73) [1.76]	-0.08 (1.73) [1.77]	0.53 (2.30) [2.90]	-0.28 (1.73) [1.81]	-3.67 (4.13) [3.58]	0.08 (0.05) [0.04]*	0.08 (0.05)* [0.04]*	0.08 (0.05) [0.04]*	-0.01 (0.05) [0.03]	0.07 (0.05) [0.04]	0.10 (0.11) [0.10]
More than 10 past donations	4.88 (1.67)*** [1.89]**	4.89 (1.67)*** [1.90]**	4.89 (1.67)*** [1.89]**	4.97 (2.22)** [2.71]*	4.74 (1.67)*** [1.92]**	1.47 (4.12) [3.59]	0.05 (0.05) [0.05]	0.05 (0.05) [0.05]	0.05 (0.05) [0.05]	-0.10 (0.04)** [0.05]*	0.05 (0.05) [0.05]	0.03 (0.12) [0.13]
Last donation within past 6 months	18.15 (1.37)*** [2.19]***	18.15 (1.37)*** [2.18]***	18.13 (1.37)*** [2.19]***	18.16 (1.37)*** [2.20]***	13.99 (1.85)*** [2.02]***	18.15 (1.89)*** [2.13]***	0.29 (0.04)*** [0.05]***	0.28 (0.04)*** [0.05]***	0.29 (0.04)*** [0.05]***	0.28 (0.04)*** [0.05]***	0.10 (0.04)*** [0.04]**	0.38 (0.06)*** [0.08]***
Last donation between 6 and 12 months	1.69 (1.35) [1.00]	1.72 (1.35) [0.99]*	1.72 (1.35) [1.00]*	1.73 (1.35) [1.00]*	1.55 (1.78) [1.51]	1.55 (2.08) [2.06]	0.08 (0.03)*** [0.03]***	0.08 (0.03)*** [0.03]***	0.08 (0.03)*** [0.03]***	0.08 (0.03)*** [0.03]***	0.04 (0.03) [0.03]	0.15 (0.06)*** [0.07]**
SHAREW1-50%						6.74 (4.68) [4.66]						0.05 (0.04) [0.06]
SHAREW>50%						-6.52 (4.73) [4.00]						0.01 (0.05) [0.05]
Female*Informed of Reward	-2.46 (2.58) [2.41]						-0.03 (0.06) [0.05]					
Age 26-50*Informed of Reward		-0.09 (3.36) [3.52]						0.15 (0.05)*** [0.06]**				
Age 50+*Informed of Reward		2.10 (3.29) [3.36]						0.23 (0.08)*** [0.08]***				
O-Negative*Informed of Reward			0.59 (3.94) [4.37]						-0.06 (0.10) [0.11]			
5-9 Past Donations*Informed of Reward				-1.02 (3.32) [3.56]						0.15 (0.09)* [0.07]*		
10+ Past Donations*Informed of Reward				-0.16 (2.88) [3.74]						0.28 (0.07)*** [0.09]***		
Last.Don.within 6 months*Informed of Rewan					6.93 (2.61)*** [3.71]*						0.33 (0.07)*** [0.09]***	
Last.Don.6-12 months*Informed of Reward					0.25 (2.59) [2.09]						0.08 (0.05) [0.05]	
SHAREW1-50%*Informed of Reward						-4.29 (5.96) [6.95]						0.04 (0.13) [0.15]
SHAREW>50%*Informed of Reward						-6.08 (6.10) [7.04]						0.52 (0.16)*** [0.12]***
Observations	3,035	3,035	3,035	3,035	3,035	2,159	79,367	79,367	79,367	79,367	79,367	27,109
Adjusted R-squared	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.092	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.003

**Table 9: Local, Displacement, and Total Effects - The Effect of incentives on a) donating at the intervention drive, b) donating at some other drive in the intervention month, and c) donating anywhere during the intervention month.**

The table reports estimated coefficients on a dummy variable equal to 1 if the subject was informed of the reward. Each coefficient in the first row comes from a separate linear probability regression, and the coefficients in rows 2-4 come from one linear probability regression for each dependent variable. The samples include all the subjects informed of rewards who were invited to an Advertised reward drive and all subjects invited to the Surprise reward drives. The dependent variable is indicated at the top of each column, and the specifications are the same as those in Table 7 with the addition of control variables for the number and characteristics of alternative drives during the intervention period. Robust standard errors are reported in round brackets, and clustered standard errors for the 35 drive-level clusters are reported in square brackets. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. The estimated coefficients were multiplied by 100 so they represent percentage changes.

Sample	Subjects informed of reward at Adv. or uninformed at Surp. drives					
	Previous history at intervention site			No previous history at intervention site		
	Donated at Intervention Drive	Donated at Other Locations	Donated Anywhere	Donated at Intervention Drive	Donated at Other Locations	Donated Anywhere
Mean of dep. var. (for Uninformed subjects)	13.19%	11.56%	24.75%	0.08%	9.37%	9.43%
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
All	7.41 (1.39)*** [2.29]***	-1.94 (1.16)* [1.57]	5.46 (1.61)*** [1.76]***	0.19 (0.03)*** [0.05]***	0.13 (0.21) [0.31]	0.33 (0.22) [0.31]
\$5 Adv. Rew.	4.36 (1.82)** [2.74]	-0.95 (1.61) [1.78]	3.41 (2.14) [2.48]	0.09 (0.04)** [0.05]*	-0.41 (0.27) [0.34]	-0.31 (0.27) [0.35]
\$10 Adv. Rew.	7.14 (2.01)*** [3.16]**	-0.35 (1.64) [2.17]	6.79 (2.29)*** [2.39]***	0.15 (0.04)*** [0.08]*	0.38 (0.27) [0.41]	0.53 (0.27)** [0.40]
\$15 Adv. Rew.	10.15 (1.89)*** [3.04]***	-4.09 (1.36)*** [1.62]**	6.07 (2.09)*** [2.58]**	0.39 (0.07)*** [0.10]***	0.41 (0.32) [0.37]	0.80 (0.33)** [0.35]**
P-value of:						
\$10 Adv.Rew. ≥ \$5 Adv.Rew.	0.26	0.57	0.20	0.21	0.98	0.01
\$15 Adv.Rew. ≥ \$10 Adv.Rew.	0.26	0.10	0.56	0.04	0.43	0.39
\$15 Adv.Rew. ≥ \$5 Adv.Rew.	0.08	0.10	0.22	0.00	0.99	0.00
N	3,034	3,034	3,034	79,329	79,329	79,329

**Table 10: Long-term effects of incentives. Informed of the Reward and donated at Advertised Reward site vs. Donated at No Reward site.**

The sample includes all subjects who either (A) donated at the No Reward drives (and were not informed of any Advertised reward drive) or (B) donated at the Advertised reward drives and were informed of the reward. Each subject has two observations, one for the pre-intervention period and one for the post-intervention period. POST is a dummy variable equal to 1 for the post-intervention observation and 0 for the pre-intervention observation. The variable DON\_ INFO\_REWARD is equal to 1 if the subject was in group (B). Individual fixed effects are included in all the regressions. Standard errors clustered at the individual level are reported in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. In 10a, the estimated coefficients were multiplied by 100 so they represent percentage changes.

**10a: Dependent variable equals 1 if the subject donated anywhere in the 13, 26 or 39 weeks before or after intervention**

Dependent variable	Donated in the N weeks before/after intervention											
	Previous history at site						No previous history at site					
Sample												
Mean of the dep. var. (No reward donors before intervention)												
	13 weeks		26 weeks		39 weeks		13 weeks		26 weeks		39 weeks	
	47.57%		86.08%		92.23%		20.00%		60.00%		75.56%	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
POST	4.21 (3.59)	4.21 (3.60)	-7.12*** (2.65)	-7.12*** (2.65)	-6.15*** (2.29)	-6.15*** (2.29)	2.22 (7.41)	2.22 (7.43)	-6.67 (8.60)	-6.67 (8.63)	-15.56* (8.92)	-15.56* (8.95)
POST*DON_ INFO REWARD	-12.43** (4.97)		-1.65 (3.77)		-1.80 (3.25)		1.23 (9.29)		0.63 (10.08)		5.21 (10.13)	
POST*DON_\$5 INFO REWARD		-2.34 (7.06)		-0.36 (5.42)		0.54 (4.75)		9.78 (16.17)		6.67 (13.13)		7.56 (13.24)
POST*DON_\$10 INFO REWARD		-11.90 (7.25)		-0.57 (6.02)		-0.58 (5.12)		-5.00 (10.49)		15.00 (13.22)		15.56 (12.60)
POST*DON_\$15 INFO REWARD		-19.79*** (6.42)		-3.27 (4.78)		-4.24 (4.16)		1.41 (11.36)		-11.52 (11.36)		-2.63 (11.31)
P-value of:												
\$10 Informed - \$5 Informed		0.27		0.98		0.86		0.36		0.56		0.55
\$15 Informed - \$10 Informed		0.23		0.69		0.53		0.57		0.04		0.11
\$15 Informed - \$5 Informed		0.03		0.64		0.38		0.62		0.14		0.40
Observations	1,348	1,348	1,348	1,348	1,348	1,348	322	322	322	322	322	322
N of donors	653	653	653	653	653	653	161	161	161	161	161	161
R-squared	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.04	0.05	0.06

**10b: Dependent variable = Number of donations made in the 26 or 39 weeks before or after intervention**

Dependent variable	Number of donations in the N weeks before/after intervention							
	Previous history at site				No previous history at site			
Sample								
Mean of the dep. var. (No reward donors, before interv.)								
	26 weeks		39 weeks		26 weeks		39 weeks	
	1.54		2.09		0.76		1.20	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
POST	-0.16*** (0.06)	-0.16*** (0.06)	-0.13* (0.07)	-0.13* (0.07)	-0.02 (0.12)	-0.02 (0.12)	-0.04 (0.17)	-0.04 (0.17)
POST*DON_ INFO REWARD	0.06 (0.08)		-0.01 (0.10)		0.06 (0.14)		-0.08 (0.21)	
POST*DON_\$5 INFO REWARD		0.22* (0.12)		0.11 (0.13)		0.14 (0.20)		-0.04 (0.30)
POST*DON_\$10 INFO REWARD		-0.13 (0.12)		-0.07 (0.15)		0.19 (0.19)		-0.07 (0.26)
POST*DON_\$15 INFO REWARD		0.07 (0.11)		-0.04 (0.12)		-0.07 (0.17)		-0.12 (0.24)
P-value of:								
\$10 Informed - \$5 Informed		0.02		0.31		0.83		0.92
\$15 Informed - \$10 Informed		0.15		0.89		0.19		0.84
\$15 Informed - \$5 Informed		0.26		0.33		0.31		0.77
Observations	1,348	1,348	1,348	1,348	322	322	322	322
N of donors	653	653	653	653	161	161	161	161
R-squared	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01



**Table 11: Long-term effects of incentives. Donated at Surprise Reward site vs. Donated at No Reward site.**

The sample includes all subjects who either (A) donated at the No reward drives (and were not informed of any Advertised reward drive) or (C) donated at the Surprise Reward drives (and were not informed of any Advertised Reward drive). Each subject has two observations, one for the pre-intervention period and one for the post-intervention period. POST is a dummy variable equal to 1 for the post-intervention observation and 0 for the pre-intervention observation. The variable DON\_SURPR\_TREAT is equal to 1 if a donor was in group (C). Individual fixed effects are included in all the regressions. Standard errors clustered at the individual level are reported in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. In 11a, the estimated coefficients were multiplied by 100 so they represent percentage changes.

**11a: Dependent variable equals 1 if the subject donated anywhere in the 13, 26 or 39 weeks before or after intervention**

Dependent variable		Donated in the N weeks before/after intervention											
		13 weeks		26 weeks		39 weeks		13 weeks		26 weeks		39 weeks	
Sample	Mean of the dep. var. (No reward donors, before interv.)	Previous history at site						No previous history at site					
		47.57%		86.08%		92.23%		20.00%		60.00%		75.56%	
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
POST		4.21 (3.59)	4.21 (3.60)	-7.12*** (2.64)	-7.12*** (2.65)	-6.15*** (2.29)	-6.15*** (2.29)	2.22 (7.47)	2.22 (7.52)	-6.67 (8.67)	-6.67 (8.73)	-15.56* (8.99)	-15.56* (9.05)
POST*DON_SURPR.REWARD		-20.77*** (5.86)		-10.67** (4.86)		-8.58** (4.36)		4.92 (14.53)		-4.05 (12.76)		8.41 (12.55)	
POST*DON_\$5 SURPR.REWARD			-14.55* (8.42)		-3.23 (7.28)		-5.92 (7.32)		14.44 (29.62)		-10.00 (17.82)		-1.11 (17.98)
POST*DON_\$10 SURPR.REWARD			-27.64*** (8.11)		-16.32** (6.72)		-9.48 (5.99)		-2.22 (17.72)		-15.56 (16.63)		-17.78 (18.42)
POST*DON_\$15 SURPR.REWARD			-18.84* (10.18)		-12.39 (9.03)		-10.92 (7.21)		5.47 (21.99)		6.67 (17.97)		30.94** (13.65)
P-value of:													
\$10 Surpr. - \$5 Surpr.			0.21		0.15		0.69		0.61		0.79		0.46
\$15 Surpr. - \$10 Surpr.			0.46		0.71		0.87		0.77		0.30		0.01
\$15 Surpr. - \$5 Surpr.			0.74		0.40		0.61		0.80		0.45		0.09
Observations		944	944	944	944	944	944	146	146	146	146	146	146
N of donors		471	471	471	471	471	471	73	73	73	73	73	73
R-squared		0.03	0.03	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.05	0.11

**11b: Dependent variable = Number of donations made in the 26 or 39 weeks before or after intervention**

Dependent variable		Number of donations in the N weeks before/after intervention							
		26 weeks		39 weeks		26 weeks		39 weeks	
Sample	Mean of the dep. var. (No reward donors, before interv.)	Previous history at site				No previous history at site			
		1.54		2.09		0.76		1.20	
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
POST		-0.16*** (0.06)	-0.16*** (0.06)	-0.13* (0.07)	-0.13* (0.07)	-0.02 (0.12)	-0.02 (0.12)	-0.04 (0.17)	-0.04 (0.18)
POST*DON_SURPR.REWARD		-0.12 (0.11)		-0.35*** (0.13)		-0.01 (0.18)		0.12 (0.28)	
POST*DON_\$5 SURPR.REWARD			0.11 (0.15)		-0.25 (0.19)		-0.14 (0.20)		0.04 (0.38)
POST*DON_\$10 SURPR.REWARD			-0.31* (0.16)		-0.53*** (0.18)		-0.09 (0.28)		-0.18 (0.45)
POST*DON_\$15 SURPR.REWARD			-0.16 (0.20)		-0.19 (0.24)		0.10 (0.26)		0.35 (0.38)
P-value of:									
\$10 Surpr. - \$5 Surpr.			0.04		0.25		0.85		0.68
\$15 Surpr. - \$10 Surpr.			0.53		0.23		0.59		0.33
\$15 Surpr. - \$5 Surpr.			0.26		0.83		0.39		0.53
Observations		944	944	944	944	146	146	146	146
N of donors		471	471	471	471	73	73	73	73
R-squared		0.04	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.02

**Table 12: Long-Term Effects, by degree of Extrinsic Motivation**

For Table 12a, see the Notes to Table 10, and for Table 12b the Notes to Table 11. SHAREW is the share of drives an individual donated at in the previous four years which offered some material reward. Based on this variable, we constructed three dummies, one for SHAREW=0, one for SHAREW greater than 0 and smaller than 50% (roughly the median among the subjects), and one for SHAREW >50%. In Table 12b, estimates of the coefficients on POST\*DON\_INFO REWARD\*SHAREW=0 could not be obtained for individuals without previous history because there were no observations for individuals with SHAREW=0. Note that although we obtain and report the corresponding estimates in Table 12a, the coefficients were identified out of a single individual. Individual fixed effects are included in all the regressions. Standard errors clustered at the individual level are reported in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. In 11a, the estimated coefficients were multiplied by 100 so they represent percentage changes.

**12a: Informed of the Reward and donated at Advertised Reward site vs. Donated at No Reward site.**

Dependent variable	Donated in the N weeks before/after intervention					
	13 weeks	26 weeks	39 weeks	13 weeks	26 weeks	39 weeks
	Previous history at site			No previous history at site		
	Sample	Sample	Sample	Sample	Sample	Sample
Mean of the dep. var. (No reward donors, before interv.)	50.20%	90.60%	95.10%	16.00%	68.00%	80.00%
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(7)	(8)	(9)
POST	5.50 (4.02)	-7.26*** (2.72)	-5.00** (2.15)	8.00 (9.81)	-8.00 (9.81)	-12.00 (8.75)
POST*DON_INFO REWARD*SHAREW=0	-14.59 (10.74)	-7.90 (10.11)	1.97 (9.36)	-8.00 (9.81)	58.00 (37.21)	112.00*** (8.75)
POST*DON_INFO REWARD*SHAREW1-50%	-7.88 (5.81)	4.12 (4.13)	-0.55 (3.43)	-15.69 (15.70)	11.85 (14.23)	15.85 (11.03)
POST*DON_INFO REWARD*SHAREW>50%	-18.83* (11.03)	-10.52 (7.75)	-6.12 (6.83)	-1.75 (13.76)	-4.50 (12.47)	-6.75 (10.87)
Observations	1,106	1,106	1,106	202	202	202
N of donors	536	536	536	101	101	101
R-squared	0.009	0.031	0.025	0.014	0.052	0.195

**12b: Donated at Surprise Reward site vs. Donated at No Reward site.**

Dependent variable	Donated in the N weeks before/after intervention					
	13 weeks	26 weeks	39 weeks	13 weeks	26 weeks	39 weeks
	Previous history at site			No previous history at site		
	Sample	Sample	Sample	Sample	Sample	Sample
Mean of the dep. var. (No reward donors, before interv.)	50.20%	90.60%	95.10%	16.00%	68.00%	80.00%
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(7)	(8)	(9)
POST	5.31 (4.07)	-7.35*** (2.74)	-4.90** (2.14)	8.00 (10.02)	-8.00 (10.02)	-12.00 (8.93)
POST*DON_INFO REWARD*SHAREW=0	-5.31 (4.07)	7.35 (35.62)	4.90 (35.58)			
POST*DON_INFO REWARD*SHAREW1-50%	-18.58*** (7.00)	-8.58 (5.53)	-6.61 (4.65)	-20.50 (24.14)	-29.50 (20.37)	-0.50 (15.05)
POST*DON_INFO REWARD*SHAREW>50%	-35.74*** (12.15)	-14.39 (9.06)	-16.84* (8.90)	25.33 (29.93)	8.00 (49.87)	12.00 (8.93)
Observations	770	770	770	72	72	72
N of donors	384	384	384	36	36	36
R-squared	0.035	0.061	0.063	0.062	0.117	0.081

**Table 13: Cost calculations**

In this table we show the cost calculations that are used in the welfare analysis presented in section 4.3.

		Past history at sites			No past history at sites		
		\$5	\$10	\$15	\$5	\$10	\$15
<b>All values are per 100 individuals contacted</b>							
1	Units collected - baseline when no incentives offered <sup>(1)</sup>	13.18	13.18	13.18	0.08	0.08	0.08
2	Donors presenting - baseline when no incentives offered <sup>(2)</sup>	15.14	15.14	15.14	0.09	0.09	0.09
3	Extra units collected when incentives offered <sup>(3)</sup>	--	6.79	6.07	--	--	0.80
4	Extra donors presenting when incentives offered <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	--	8.20	11.66	--	--	0.45
5	Total N. of donors presenting when incentives offered	15.14	23.35	26.81	0.09	0.09	0.54
6	\$ cost of providing incentives <sup>(4)</sup>	\$75.70	\$233.5	\$402.1	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$8.1
8	\$ cost per extra unit collected <sup>(5)</sup>	--	\$34.4	\$66.2	--	--	\$10.1

<sup>(1)</sup> From Table 9, columns 1 and 4.

<sup>(2)</sup> Donors presenting = units collected \* 1.149 (donors deferred are 13% of donors presenting, irrespective of the presence of incentives).

<sup>(3)</sup> From Table 9, columns 3 and 6. Note that we used zeros when the coefficients were statistically insignificant.

<sup>(4)</sup> \$ value of the incentives \* total N. of donors presenting at drives with incentives. <sup>(5)</sup> Total cost of providing incentives/N. of extra units collected when incentives provided.

# Appendix A

Table A1: Glossary

<b>Intervention Drives</b>	(N=72) Drives that were included in the study. The intervention drives refer to a specific location and date.
<b>Advertised Reward Drives</b>	(N=26) Intervention Drives in which rewards were provided and about 50 percent of individuals contacted were informed of the rewards and about 50 percent were not informed
<b>Surprise Reward Drives</b>	(N=9) Intervention Drives in which rewards were provided but no individual contacted was informed of the rewards.
<b>No Reward Drives</b>	(N=36) Intervention Drives in which rewards were NOT provided.
<b>Subjects</b>	Refers to any individual who received a flyer for an Intervention Drive. Note that a subject could in one time period receive a flyer for a Surprise Reward Drive and at a different time receive a flyer for an Advertised Reward Drive.
<b>Informed Subjects</b>	Individuals who received a flyer for an Advertised Reward drive and the flyer informed them that they would receive a reward if they donated at the Advertised drive.
<b>Uninformed Subjects</b>	Individuals who received a flyer for an Advertised Reward drive and the flyer was identical to the flyer Informed subjects received except that the flyer does not include any reference to the reward.
<b>Past History</b>	We say that a subject <i>has Past History</i> at specific intervention drive X if the subject has <i>donated</i> at least one time prior to drive X at the host location of drive X and we say that a subject has no Past History at drive X if the subject has <i>never donated</i> at the host location of drive X prior to the intervention drive X.
<b>Contacted Subjects</b>	Individuals who received a flyer for an Advertised, Surprise, or No Reward drive. To receive a flyer about drive X, the individual must have donated at least one time at a drive in the past two years in the county in which drive X will occur. Further, we use the term “subject” in the spirit of a person as the unit of observation in an experiment, but these subjects were unaware that a research study was being conducted or that their donation behavior was being monitored.
<b>Not Contacted Donors</b>	Anyone who donated at an Advertised, Surprise or No Reward drive who is not a Contacted Subject.

## Appendix B

**Table B1: Donating at a No Reward drive vs. donating at a Surprise drive**

The table shows t-tests of the differences between the percent of subjects who donated at the Surprise reward sites and the No reward sites. Sample sizes (N) are reported in square brackets.

	All	Past history	No past history
Donated at Surprise Reward drive [N]	0.53 [35,968]	13.18 [1,229]	0.08 [34,739]
Donated at No Reward drive [N]	0.59 101,870	15.83 [3,424]	0.06 [98,446]
P-value of difference (two-tailed)	0.18	0.03	0.21
P-value (one-tailed: Surprise > No Reward)	0.91	0.99	0.10

**Table B2: Individual-level regressions of the probability to donate at the intervention drives; Logit regressions.**

The estimates are the marginal effects obtained from Logit models of equation (1), with drive-level fixed effects and robust standard errors. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. The estimates shown have been multiplied by 100 to represent percentage changes.

**B2-a: Informed vs. Uninformed at Advertised reward drives**

Dependent Variable		1 if donated at intervention drive, 0 otherwise				
		Subjects contacted for an Advertised reward drive				
Sample		All		Previous history at site		No previous history at site
Mean of dep. var. (for Uninformed)		0.65 %		15.32 %		0.09 %
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Informed of Reward	0.06*** (0.01)		3.79*** (1.07)		0.08*** (0.02)	
Informed of \$5 Reward		0.04** (0.02)		3.37 (2.12)		0.05 (0.04)
Informed of \$10 Reward		0.07*** (0.03)		5.07** (2.51)		0.11** (0.05)
Informed of \$15 Reward		0.08*** (0.02)		4.12** (2.00)		0.18*** (0.07)
Observations	92,722	92,722	3,509	3,509	89,206	89,206
Adjusted R-squared	0.45	0.45	0.16	0.16	0.10	0.10

**B2-b: Informed vs. Uninformed at Surprise reward drives**

Dependent Variable		1 if donated at intervention drive, 0 otherwise				
		Subjects contacted for an Advertised reward drive				
Sample		All		Previous history at site		No previous history at site
Mean of dep. var. (for Uninformed)		0.65 %		13.18 %		0.09 %
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Informed of Reward	0.08*** (0.02)		6.02*** (1.79)		0.10*** (0.03)	
Informed of \$5 Reward		0.05* (0.03)		3.51 (2.64)		0.05 (0.04)
Informed of \$10 Reward		0.10*** (0.03)		7.26** (3.16)		0.12 (0.08)
Informed of \$15 Reward		0.18*** (0.05)		9.71*** (3.09)		0.29*** (0.10)
Observations	82,400	82,400	3,035	3,035	79,365	79,365
Adjusted R-squared	0.43	0.43	0.11	0.12	0.08	0.09

**Table B3: Individual-level regressions of the probability to donate at the intervention drives – Testing for Heterogeneous Effects. Informed vs. Uninformed at Advertised rewards drives.**

The sample includes all subjects who were contacted for an Advertised reward drive. The dependent variable is equal to 1 if a subject has donated blood at the intervention drive, and 0 otherwise. The estimates are from linear probability models. The estimates are from linear probability models with drive level fixed effects. Robust standard errors are reported in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. The estimated coefficients were multiplied by 100 so they represent percentage changes.

Dependent Variable	1 if donated at intervention drive, 0 otherwise											
Sample	Subjects contacted for an Advertised reward drive											
	Previous history at site						No previous history at site					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
Informed of Reward	6.12*** (1.79)	6.84*** (2.50)	5.00*** (1.28)	3.89* (2.08)	2.13 (1.60)	4.82 (4.56)	0.14*** (0.04)	0.08*** (0.03)	0.16*** (0.03)	0.05 (0.03)	0.01 (0.02)	0.13 (0.10)
Female	-0.24 (1.67)	-2.05* (1.23)	-1.98 (1.23)	-2.02 (1.23)	-2.02 (1.23)	-1.88 (1.56)	-0.03 (0.03)	-0.01 (0.03)	-0.01 (0.03)	-0.01 (0.03)	-0.01 (0.03)	0.02 (0.06)
Age 26-50	3.34** (1.69)	5.16** (2.02)	3.33** (1.68)	3.35** (1.69)	3.41** (1.68)	3.32 (2.75)	0.06** (0.03)	0.03 (0.03)	0.06** (0.03)	0.06** (0.03)	0.06** (0.03)	0.07 (0.10)
Age 50+	9.06*** (1.77)	10.20*** (2.11)	9.02*** (1.77)	9.08*** (1.78)	9.12*** (1.78)	9.67*** (2.79)	0.16*** (0.05)	0.06 (0.05)	0.16*** (0.05)	0.16*** (0.05)	0.16*** (0.05)	0.15 (0.11)
O-Negative blood type	-0.15 (1.96)	-0.24 (1.96)	2.89 (2.92)	-0.23 (1.96)	-0.25 (1.96)	0.34 (2.32)	-0.06 (0.04)	-0.06 (0.04)	-0.06 (0.04)	-0.06 (0.04)	-0.06 (0.04)	-0.10 (0.08)
Between 5 and 9 past donations	-1.68 (1.65)	-1.60 (1.65)	-1.59 (1.65)	-2.03 (2.15)	-1.52 (1.65)	-4.36 (3.79)	0.00 (0.04)	0.00 (0.04)	0.00 (0.04)	-0.13*** (0.03)	0.00 (0.04)	-0.03 (0.11)
More than 10 past donations	3.06* (1.59)	3.14** (1.59)	3.12** (1.59)	2.82 (2.02)	3.15** (1.59)	0.10 (3.85)	0.05 (0.05)	0.05 (0.05)	0.05 (0.05)	-0.07 (0.05)	0.05 (0.05)	-0.03 (0.12)
Last donation within past 6 months	19.25*** (1.29)	19.15*** (1.29)	19.20*** (1.29)	19.18*** (1.29)	16.92*** (1.66)	19.50*** (1.73)	0.25*** (0.03)	0.25*** (0.03)	0.25*** (0.03)	0.25*** (0.03)	0.09** (0.04)	0.35*** (0.05)
Last donation between 6 and 12 months	3.72*** (1.37)	3.58*** (1.36)	3.62*** (1.36)	3.59*** (1.36)	4.47** (1.87)	5.35*** (2.01)	0.06** (0.02)	0.06** (0.02)	0.06** (0.02)	0.06** (0.02)	0.00 (0.03)	0.13** (0.05)
SHAREW1-50%						3.63 (3.54)						0.06 (0.04)
SHAREW>50%						-6.53* (3.75)						0.04 (0.04)
Female*Informed of Reward	-3.48 (2.42)						0.04 (0.06)					
Age 26-50*Informed of Reward		-3.59 (3.12)						0.07 (0.05)				
Age 50+*Informed of Reward		-2.29 (3.12)						0.19** (0.07)				
O-Negative*Informed of Reward			-5.79 (3.92)						0.01 (0.09)			
5-9 Past Donations*Informed of Reward				0.84 (3.20)						0.27*** (0.07)		
10+ Past Donations*Informed of Reward				0.59 (2.70)						0.23*** (0.07)		
Last.Don.within 6 months*Informed of Rewan					4.46* (2.45)						0.33*** (0.07)	
Last.Don.6-12 months*Informed of Reward					-1.52 (2.69)						0.12** (0.05)	
SHAREW1-50%*Informed of Reward						1.25 (4.98)						0.04 (0.13)
SHAREW>50%*Informed of Reward						-1.25 (5.22)						0.53*** (0.16)
Observations	3,516	3,516	3,516	3,516	3,516	2,469	89,206	89,206	89,206	89,206	89,206	32,316
Adjusted R-squared	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.13	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.003	0.004

**Table B4: Individual-level regressions of the probability to donate at the intervention drives: Heterogeneous Effects by \$ amount**

This table compares the donations of informed of reward subjects at the Advertised reward drives with the donations of subjects at the Surprise reward drives. The dependent variable is equal to 1 if a subject has donated blood at the intervention drive, and 0 otherwise. The estimates are from linear probability models, and intervention periods fixed effects are included in all regressions. Robust standard errors are reported in round brackets, and clustered standard errors for the 35 drive-level clusters are reported in square brackets. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \*p<0.1. The estimated coefficients were multiplied by 100 so they represent percentage changes.

Dependent Variable	1 if donated at intervention drive, 0 otherwise											
	Subjects informed of reward at Adv. or uninformed at Surp. drives											
	Previous history at site						No previous history at site					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
Informed of \$5 Reward	2.30 (2.75)	-2.32 (2.51)	4.10* (2.40)	3.51 (3.32)	2.24 (2.27)	20.91* (12.07)	0.09* (0.04)	-0.04* (0.02)	0.05 (0.03)	-0.03 (0.03)	-0.02 (0.03)	-0.01 (0.04)
Informed of \$10 Reward	8.28** (4.00)	6.16 (3.96)	6.31* (3.22)	10.01** (4.48)	3.24 (3.10)	12.52 (8.04)	0.12 (0.09)	0.03 (0.07)	0.14 (0.09)	0.02 (0.06)	0.05 (0.06)	-0.00 (0.05)
Informed of \$15 Reward	12.41*** (4.23)	11.60*** (3.07)	9.08*** (2.84)	7.71** (3.00)	2.61 (2.53)	2.49 (4.81)	0.40*** (0.14)	0.17* (0.10)	0.38*** (0.11)	0.24** (0.10)	0.06** (0.03)	0.45 (0.38)
Female	-1.82 (1.27)	-3.24** (1.27)	-3.21** (1.29)	-3.18** (1.30)	-3.27** (1.30)	-4.14** (1.70)	0.04 (0.03)	0.03 (0.03)	0.03 (0.03)	0.03 (0.03)	0.03 (0.03)	0.04 (0.06)
Age 26-50	0.15 (1.59)	0.41 (2.66)	0.26 (1.55)	0.26 (1.56)	0.43 (1.58)	-0.33 (2.79)	0.02 (0.04)	-0.06*** (0.02)	0.02 (0.04)	0.02 (0.04)	0.02 (0.04)	0.02 (0.12)
Age 50+	4.55** (1.75)	3.29 (2.32)	4.55** (1.70)	4.64** (1.71)	4.85*** (1.69)	3.75 (2.87)	0.14*** (0.04)	0.02 (0.04)	0.14*** (0.04)	0.15*** (0.04)	0.14*** (0.04)	0.18 (0.12)
O-Negative blood type	-3.68 (2.20)	-3.66 (2.20)	-4.25 (2.83)	-3.67 (2.19)	-4.02* (2.20)	-3.30 (2.76)	-0.03 (0.06)	-0.02 (0.06)	0.00 (0.05)	-0.03 (0.06)	-0.03 (0.06)	-0.06 (0.12)
Between 5 and 9 past donations	-0.03 (1.76)	-0.00 (1.75)	-0.04 (1.75)	0.50 (2.90)	-0.13 (1.82)	-3.96 (3.65)	0.08* (0.04)	0.08* (0.04)	0.08* (0.05)	-0.01 (0.03)	0.08* (0.04)	0.09 (0.10)
More than 10 past donations	4.88** (1.90)	4.87** (1.90)	4.90** (1.89)	4.95* (2.72)	4.83** (1.88)	1.12 (3.74)	0.05 (0.05)	0.05 (0.05)	0.05 (0.05)	-0.10* (0.05)	0.05 (0.05)	0.01 (0.13)
Last donation within past 6 months	18.12*** (2.17)	18.13*** (2.17)	18.04*** (2.17)	18.14*** (2.18)	13.95*** (2.00)	17.98*** (2.12)	0.28*** (0.05)	0.28*** (0.05)	0.28*** (0.05)	0.28*** (0.05)	0.10** (0.04)	0.38*** (0.08)
Last donation between 6 and 12 months	1.65 (1.02)	1.82* (1.03)	1.80* (1.02)	1.72* (1.01)	1.53 (1.50)	1.33 (2.01)	0.09*** (0.03)	0.09*** (0.03)	0.09*** (0.03)	0.09*** (0.03)	0.04 (0.03)	0.16** (0.07)
SHAREW1-50%						6.62 (4.67)						0.05 (0.06)
SHAREW>50%						-6.72 (3.98)						0.00 (0.05)
Female*Informed of \$5 Reward	2.21 (3.19)						-0.06 (0.05)					
Female*Informed of \$10 Reward	-2.80 (3.64)						0.03 (0.09)					
Female*Informed of \$15 Reward	-6.12* (3.48)						-0.06 (0.10)					
Age 26-50*Informed of \$5 Reward		4.12 (4.48)						0.12*** (0.03)				
Age 26-50*Informed of \$10 Reward		0.48 (4.31)						0.05 (0.06)				
Age 26-50*Informed of \$15 Reward		-3.72 (4.88)						0.31 (0.19)				
Age 50+*Informed of \$5 Reward		8.08* (3.99)						0.17** (0.08)				
Age 50+*Informed of \$10 Reward		0.95 (5.26)						0.28** (0.11)				
Age 50+*Informed of \$15 Reward		-1.61 (4.28)						0.24 (0.20)				
O-Negative*Informed of \$5 Reward			-4.64 (4.39)						0.03 (0.14)			
O-Negative*Informed of \$10 Reward			6.07 (7.77)						-0.03 (0.18)			
O-Negative*Informed of \$15 Reward			3.73 (6.15)						-0.19 (0.22)			

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Dependent Variable	1 if donated at intervention drive, 0 otherwise											
	Subjects informed of reward at Adv. or uninformed at Surp. drives											
	Previous history at site						No previous history at site					
Sample	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
5-9 Past Don.*Informed of \$5 Reward				0.13						0.26***		
				(3.92)						(0.09)		
5-9 Past Don.*Informed of \$10 Reward				-3.33						0.13		
				(5.95)						(0.09)		
5-9 Past Don.*Informed of \$15 Reward				0.20						0.02		
				(4.41)						(0.20)		
10+ Past Don.*Informed of \$5 Reward				-0.13						0.15*		
				(5.09)						(0.09)		
10+ Past Don.*Informed of \$10 Reward				-4.31						0.31***		
				(3.81)						(0.11)		
10+ Past Don.*Informed of \$15 Reward				2.83						0.37**		
				(5.26)						(0.18)		
Last.Don.w/in 6 mos*Inform. of \$5 Rew.					1.91						0.19**	
					(4.03)						(0.08)	
Last.Don.w/in 6 mos*Inform. of \$10 Rew.					6.12						0.17**	
					(8.04)						(0.08)	
Last.Don.w/in 6 mos*Inform. of \$15 Rew.					12.08***						0.69***	
					(4.15)						(0.21)	
Last.Don.6-12 mos*Inform. of \$5 Rew.					0.58						0.04	
					(3.08)						(0.04)	
Last.Don.6-12 mos*Inform. of \$10 Rew.					0.51						0.07	
					(2.89)						(0.06)	
Last.Don.6-12 mos*Inform. of \$15 Rew.					-0.19						0.15	
					(2.60)						(0.15)	
SHAREW1-50%*Inform. of \$5 Rew.						-20.36*						0.02
						(11.87)						(0.10)
SHAREW1-50%*Inform. of \$10 Rew.						-6.00						0.24
						(9.26)						(0.16)
SHAREW1-50%*Inform. of \$15 Rew.						10.01						-0.10
						(6.85)						(0.42)
SHAREW>50%*Inform. of \$5 Rew.						-17.86						0.44**
						(13.19)						(0.18)
SHAREW>50%*Inform. of \$10 Rew.						-10.90						0.52***
						(9.37)						(0.16)
SHAREW>50%*Inform. of \$15 Rew.						6.99						0.75***
						(6.32)						(0.22)
Observations	3,035	3,035	3,035	3,035	3,035	2,159	79,365	79,365	79,365	79,365	79,365	27,109
Adjusted R-squared	0.092	0.091	0.091	0.090	0.094	0.099	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.003	0.003