

Blood Donations Needed Among African Americans. Give blood Save a Life

1. Sickle cell disease (SCD) is most common among people of African descent.
2. Many people with SCD often need a blood transfusion (the process of putting new blood into a person's body) to stay healthy.
3. When blood is transfused, or given to, a person (the recipient) of the same race and ethnicity as the person who donated the blood (the donor)...
4. health problems related to receiving the donated blood are less common. This is because the blood of the donor and the recipient are similar.
5. Increasing blood donations from the African American community can help people with SCD by preventing: poor quality of life, organ failure, stroke, or even death.
6. Giving blood is safe, simple, and the process takes less than an hour.
7. What you can do:
 - If you are not a donor, please consider becoming one.
 - Schedule regular blood drives at your church, school, workplace, or civic group.
 - Help your community understand the impact blood donation has.
 - Together we can save lives!
8. For more information on sickle cell disease visit the CDC website. www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/sicklecell