



African Americans
in Our Community
need
BLOOD.

You can help!



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African American blood donors have a unique opportunity.

Every year, thousands of African Americans face unexpected emergencies. Simple blood transfusions, routine surgeries and other life-enabling procedures might be put on hold or not performed because an exact blood donor match cannot be found. For that to happen in this day and time is tragic. But it doesn't have to be this way.

If a greater percentage of our community's African American population will become blood donors, we can overcome these shortages.

Why should African Americans donate blood?

Medical research has shown that African Americans possess rare blood traits that are found only within their specific population. Because of that, African Americans often provide the best match for other African Americans in need of blood. And that need is great.

Memphis is the second largest medical district (per capital) in the country and our community hospitals use blood at twice the national average. While local hospitals use all types of blood, Types O and B are the most in demand. These are the types possessed most frequently by African Americans.

Currently, our local hospitals require over 100,000 units of blood each year to care for all our citizens. With approximately half our population being African American, it is vital that this segment of our community donate blood in ever-increasing numbers.

When do African Americans need blood?

Several diagnosed diseases affect African Americans more frequently than other ethnic groups. These are just a few of those diseases that require blood and blood products for treatment and recovery:

- Sickle Cell Disease – affects one out of every 350 African Americans in the United States. Patients with sickle cell disease often require up to four units of blood per month for life.
- Diabetes – approximately 3.7 million or 14.7% of all African Americans aged 20 years or older have diabetes.
- Prostate Cancer – African Americans have the highest incidence of prostate cancer of any ethnic group in the world.
- Lupus – affects one in every 250 African American adult females.



Lifblood needs more African-American donors. You can help!

A nonprofit organization, Lifblood is our community's only volunteer, full-service blood center and is this area's leading provider of blood and blood components to local hospitals. Thousands of patients in our community hospitals depend on Lifblood's volunteer blood donors to provide more than 100,000 units of blood each year.

Help Lifblood take care of our community's blood needs by donating blood today and every 56 days after that. Blood donors must be at least 17 years old (or 16 with parental consent), be in generally good health, and weigh at least 110 lbs.

Call Lifblood at 901-529-6320 to learn more about donating blood or to schedule an appointment.

About Lifblood

Since 1963, Lifblood has served our hospitals and supplied almost all of the blood needed. The blood we collect stays in our community to help our fellow citizens. Lifblood's only priority: helping save lives by providing the highest quality blood products and services to patients in our area.

We are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week to process and supply more than 90% of the blood used by area hospitals and other medical centers. We have donor centers located throughout the community, mobile units and nearly 200 employees to serve our donors.

MEDICAL CENTER

Paul W. Barret, Jr. Center
1045 Madison Ave.
901.399.8120

BARTLETT

7505 Highway 64, Suite 109
901.271.1220

COLLIERVILLE

875 West Poplar, Suite 18
901.271.1210

EAST MEMPHIS

4934 Poplar Ave.
901.767.8585

GERMANTOWN

2095 Exeter, #75
901.756.8585

TIPTON COUNTY

826 A Highway 51 N.
901.476.5501

UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS

Rawlins Service
Court Building
Suite 201
901.678.5722

BLYTHERVILLE, AR

320 North 6th
870.763.8585

DESOTO COUNTY, MS

577 Goodman Road, #5
662.349.0662

1.888.LIFBLOOD

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