



# Band Together FOR SICKLE CELL WARRIORS AND GIVE BLOOD



**Be a sickle cell  
hero and donate  
blood today!**

**Find a blood center near you:  
[americasblood.org](http://americasblood.org)**

**#BandTogetherforSCD**



## The Facts

- Sickle cell disease affects approximately 100,000 Americans.
- The majority of those affected are African American.
- Sickle cell disease is a genetic blood disorder in which the red blood cells harden and curve into a sickle shape and may cause pain, infection, eye disease, stroke and more.
- There is no universal cure for sickle cell disease.

## Blood Transfusions Can Help

- When a sickle cell patient gets a blood transfusion, normal red blood cells help the sickle cells move through the body normally.
- Sickle cell patients often need blood transfusions during their lives.
- A blood transfusion can reduce pain and help patients avoid life-threatening complications.

## Diverse Blood Donors Save Lives

- Patients respond best when they receive a transfusion from a donor of a similar race and ethnic background.
- Less than 10% of Americans donate blood, and only 5% of those donors are African American.
- Donating blood takes an hour, and you could save someone's life.