Why do we need more African American blood donors?

Did you know that?

• African Americans currently contribute less than 5% of the blood supply in New Jersey. The African American population in New Jersey is over 14% - there is a large gap to fill.

• There is a greater prevalence of type O blood in African American population. Blood donations from African Americans can treat a broader cross-section of patients than can blood donations from Caucasians.

• Certain African American patients, including those who have rare blood types or medical conditions necessitating multiple blood transfusions, like sickle cell disease, require very closely matched blood products.
  • These blood products many times can only be found in donors with the same racial or ethnic heritage.

• We need more African American blood donors because voluntary blood donation builds social capital – the network of social ties and moral obligation that is vital to our country’s economic well-being and to the health of its civil society.

Donate Blood!
It is the right thing to do!