



**American  
Red Cross**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** (Moore County Chapter, 910-692-8571, [redcrossmoore@nc.rr.com](mailto:redcrossmoore@nc.rr.com))

**Help Make America Stronger...Give Blood  
Minorities encouraged to donate blood and help prepare America for  
potential summer blood shortage**

**(Southern Pines, NC)** – The American Red Cross encourages everyone to donate blood, but especially people of African-American and Latin-American decent because you are special not only because of your genealogy but also because you more than likely have either Type O or Type B blood.

A recent study completed by the American Red Cross shows that in communities with higher populations of African Americans and Hispanic Americans there is a higher percentage of blood donors with Type O or Type B blood, the two most requested blood types by hospitals. These blood types are high in demand, yet low in supply. The American Red Cross encourages everyone to donate blood no matter what your blood type or ethnicity, however minorities are especially encouraged to donate.

“Type O and Type B are the most requested blood types by hospitals and in order to fulfill the needs of our hospital patients we need to collect all blood types, but especially Types O and B.” said Bob Arrington, Donor Resources Development. “It is our civic duty as Americans to help other Americans in time of need and by making regular blood donations – at least four times each year – you can help save as many as three lives with each donation.”

It’s amazing what a pint or unit of blood can do for a person suffering from sickle cell anemia, cancer, or life threatening injuries. You’ll be helping your neighbors, friends and people you may never meet have a second chance at life and fulfill their dreams.

The American Red Cross Carolinas Blood Services Region must have 1,600 people give blood each weekday to meet hospital demand. You can help keep America strong by donating blood through your American Red Cross at least four times each year.

Volunteer blood and platelets donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh no less than 110 pounds. It is safe to give blood every 56 days and platelets every two weeks. All volunteer blood donors must show a photo ID. To find a convenient place to donate, please call **910-692-8571** or visit [www.redcrossmoorenc.com](http://www.redcrossmoorenc.com).