

# Building Diversity –

## ONE DONOR AT A TIME

Communities of color are disproportionately impacted by two inherited blood disorders: sickle cell disease (SCD) and thalassemia. Individuals with SCD or thalassemia almost always have ancestors from the parts of the world highlighted in red on the map below and often rely on life-saving transfusions of blood donated from those with similar ancestries. If your ancestors come from the highlighted regions on the map, please consider donating blood to help those in need.

Ancestors from here?  
Give blood. Save Lives. Tell Others.



Learn more  
and donate.

### SICKLE CELL DISEASE

SCD affects approximately **100,000** Americans.

SCD occurs among about **1 out of every 365** Black or African-American births.

SCD occurs among about **1 out of every 16,300** Hispanic-American births.

About **1 in 13** Black babies are born with a genetic predisposition for SCD trait.

### THALASSEMIA

Thalassemia occurs in **4.4 out of every 10,000** live births throughout the world.

Thalassemia patients with moderate to severe disease often required transfusions several times per year, and as frequently as **2-4 weeks**.

As immigration to the US from affected regions increases, Thalassemia is becoming **more prevalent** in the United States.

Many patients can require **frequent transfusions** to manage their disease.

Better matched blood = **better outcomes**



**THALASSEMIA** is characterized by reduced levels of hemoglobin, which enables red blood cells to carry oxygen throughout the body.



**SICKLE CELL DISEASE** causes red blood cells to form into a crescent shape or sickle shape and become stiff and sticky, causing them to break apart easily, block blood flow and break down inside the blood vessels.