



Bone Marrow Recipient Thanks Donor at Surprise Gathering

Saturday, 19 Apr 2008

More than 750 people filled Texas Stadium Saturday to help Carter BloodCare bring together two strangers who changed each other's lives without ever meeting.



Toni Douglas and Luis Sandoval meet for the first time. Luis traveled from New York to thank Toni for her life-saving bone marrow donation.

14 years ago. It's a decision she urges everyone to make.

"The opportunity to give life to somebody else is such a great reward. That's the least we can do," she said. "Everybody don't have a cure, but we have blood that's flowing through our bodies that's able to help other people."

For more information about the National Marrow Donor program, visit www.marrow.org.

Toni Douglas burst into tears as she embraced Luis Sandoval for the first time. Sandoval traveled from New York to thank the woman who gave him a life-saving bone marrow donation.

Sandoval was diagnosed with a blood disorder almost three years ago. Doctors told him he needed a stem cell transplant to survive.

"She's my sister. Think about it. My blood sister," he said.

Douglas, who works for Carter BloodCare, joined the National Marrow Donor program