

# Everything IS POSSIBLE!

by Mildred Bethea

Being able to write this story is a miracle. I am alive today by God's amazing grace and the umbilical cord cells that I was blessed to receive from a newborn baby boy. I have endured breast cancer, acute myelogenous leukemia, and then recurrent leukemia after being in remission for a year. I was told I needed a transplant to survive, but was also told I would probably not find an adult match, and I didn't. Primarily because I'm African American. Of approximately 7,000,000 people in the registry not one was able to save my life.

This is why I'm a miracle. Thank God for the mother who donated her umbilical cord to a public bank, other wise I wouldn't have gotten it, had she chosen either to discard it or keep it privately. I was given less than a 10% chance of survival, but God had a plan. I honestly believe sharing this story is what He had in mind. Since my transplant, together with the help of a very dear friend and others we made a difference. "Driving For Change" became our mission, and we did so successfully by adding 738 new donors to the registry during a six day campaign that went forth in the town of which I live. My prayer is that whomever reads this will have



a desire to want to also make a difference. Either become a donor, if you're female and are of child bearing age please consider donating the umbilical cord, and if you can't do either please make a financial contribution to help the blessing's continue.

*BE A PART  
OF IT!*

*Bone Marrow Drive will be at the MLK parade on January 18, 2010. Location will be 518 Castle Street. We will have a tent set up at that site. Come and join the registry by giving a mouth swab.*