The reference laboratory of a large blood center provides pre-transfusion testing and appropriate blood and blood components for approximately 100 long-term acute care facilities, dialysis centers, surgical centers, and hospitals.

Recently, AABB communicated that blood centers who perform compatibility testing and provide blood and blood components should comply with the current Standards that have always applied to hospital based transfusion services. This communication has impacted The Blood Center in the following ways:

- A risk management assessment of transfusion service activities was performed from both a legal and insurance perspective. The blood center and client roles needed clear definition.
- A working group of blood center management developed a document describing core transfusion safety requirements that should be incorporated in our transfusion service client activities.
- The current Transfusion Manual was revised to serve as a template for developing, assessing, and ensuring proper transfusion safety practices among these clients. PowerPoint training modules were provided so that all nurse educators could use the same training materials.
- A new position for a Transfusion Safety Manager was created. A job description was written, interviews were conducted, and a manager was hired and trained.

The Blood Center has positively impacted the level of transfusion safety provided to the patients of these 100 clients in our service area. As an R.N. the manager has improved communication about the clinical aspects of the transfusion and the rationale behind blood center policies. The clients have expressed appreciation for our efforts to help them provide quality patient care. It is estimated that the costs associated with moving towards adapting these new initiatives will be $150,000 to $200,000. The estimate is based on the amount of time spent by senior management and staff in developing the initiatives, legal fees for document review, production costs for all materials, client and staff training, and the recruitment and hiring of a new position.