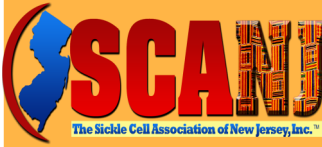


Sickle cell disease is an inherited blood disorder. People with sickle cell disease have red blood cells that become hard which can cause anemia, pain and many other serious health problems. Your involvement makes the difference in overcoming this disease.



Calendar Listings:

April Minority Health Month
 6th The 20th Annual NJ Public Health Symposium 4:00pm-RWJ Medical School Piscataway.

11th "Sickle Cell Awareness; A Wellness Event" 10:00 am-12:30pm



192 Dodd Street, East Orange. Enjoy a family fun, food, and useful information about SCANJ services

15th 16th SDCAA National Advocacy Day SCANJ delegation in Washington DC advocating for sickle cell disease.

29th Health Equity Forum & Fair with the NJ Office of Minority & Multicultural Health 9:30am-12:30pm Calvary Lighthouse 1133 E. County Line Rd. Lakewood, NJ

April 22-May 27th Take Control of Your Health Chronic Disease Self Management Program (CDSMP) 6 Week Community Workshop 10:30am Wednesday's at the Evergreen Cen. 400 Inman Ave. Colonia. In partnership with the Independent Club of Colonia.

April 27, 28, 29 & May 1st Stanford School of Medicine's Chronic Disease Self Management 4 Day Peer Leader Certification Class. 9:30AM to 4:00 PM Spain Center (Shiloh Baptist Church) 99 Davenport Ave. Newark

All programs are FREE unless noted otherwise. Call 973 482-9070 to Register or visit the events page on sicklecellnewjersey.org or visit SCANJ on eventbrite.com

SCANJ is the New Jersey Chapter of the



Sickle Cell Disease Association of America



Volume 6
 Issue 4

Say It Loud!

April 2015

Sickle Cell News You Can Use

The Sickle Cell Association of New Jersey
 P.O. Box 9501 Newark, NJ 07104

Spring...A Force of Nature



Mary Bentley LaMar
 Founder
 Executive Director

Spring is here with fresh opportunities to grow.

I believe each of us exist as part of a natural order to fulfill a purpose in life. I don't know what that is for you, but I do know that when you call on your gifts and talents and allow them to grow to help others, you become a force of nature.

Last month for Women's History we honored five women who have used their gifts and talents to benefit the sickle cell community. This month we celebrate April Minority Health.

The seed for "Minority Health Month," was planted over 30 years ago when the US Secretary of State for Health and Human Services (HHS), Margaret Heckler, gave a report on Black and Minority Health in the United States. It was clear that much needed to be done to eliminate health disparities in the minority community. Many important initiatives grew out of that report (page 2).

You can learn more on Saturday April 11th at the Jersey Explorer Children's Museum where we're hosting a Sickle Cell Awareness Open House in celebration of Minority Health Month. I'm thrilled to announce that SCANJ will be issued a proclamation during

the event from the Governor's office in recognition of our programs and services that help eliminate health disparities.

Take a look at our calendar listings and get involved. For example, we offer Peer Leader Certification for the Stanford School of Medicine's CDSMP Program.

You are a force of nature. Share your talents to make a difference. There is no better time than the Spring to make a fresh start.

Dig in.

~Mary

SCANJ with the SCDAA and FENDI: Making a "Fashion Statement"

Thanks to all who attended our Iconic Women Reception on Saturday March 7th at the Fendi Store in Short Hills.

Your presence made a STATEMENT: We honor those who make a difference in sickle cell disease. And we can come together as a community with high powered celebrities and companies, to improve the quality of life for individuals living with sickle cell disease.

Fendi donated \$1,396.00 (15% of the evenings sales) to the SCANJ. Supermodel Jourdan Dunn's 3Baguette Fendi bag fetched over \$20,000 in the online auction to benefit the SCDAA and local SCDAA chapters including the SCANJ. Several guests made donations to the SCANJ.

A video of the reception highlights will be posted soon to social media .

See more photos on our Facebook page.



Iconic Women Honorees with SCANJ Officials and Fendi Store Manager
 L-R, Dr. Jill Menell, Mary Bentley LaMar, Susan Rangel, Kevin Baxter, Dr. Rhonda Hagler Dr. Alice Cohen, Dr. Rafat Ahmed and Mrs. Lois McGuire



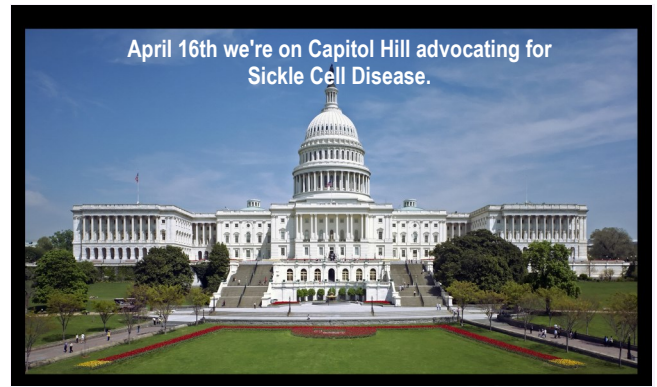
The Sickle Cell Association of New Jersey

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The Say It Loud Newsletter is published monthly except for July and August. Archived copies are available for download from our website.

Beverly Lucas-Editor

30 Years of Advancing Health Equity The Heckler Report: A Force for Ending Health Disparities in America

Timeline

In 1985 the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released a landmark report, the Secretary's Task Force Report on Black and Minority Health (Heckler Report). It documented the existence of health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities in the United States and called such disparities "an affront both to our ideals and to the ongoing genius of American medicine."

1986: Congress creates the Office of Minority Health in response to the Heckler Report. The Office of Minority Health was created as one of the most significant outcomes of the Heckler Report. The mission of the Office of Minority Health is to improve the health of racial and ethnic minority populations through the development of health policies and programs that will eliminate health disparities.

1987: The Office of Minority Health Resource Center was created as mandated by Congress.

1990: The Office of Minority Health is authorized in a status of the Disadvantaged Minority Health Improvement Act of 1990.

1998: The Health Professions Education Partnerships Act of 1998 reauthorizes the Office of Minority Health.

2000: Healthy People 2010, a comprehensive, nationwide health promotion and disease prevention agenda, includes elimination of health disparities as a goal. The Office of Minority Health releases the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (National CLAS Standards) to improve health care quality and advance health equity.

2007: The Office of Minority Health leads the creation of the National Partnership for Action to End Health Disparities.

2010: The Office of Minority Health is reauthorized by the Affordable Care Act.

2011: HHS launches strategic plans aimed at reducing health disparities: the HHS Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities and the National Stakeholder Strategy for Achieving Health Equity.

2013: The National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Service in Health and Health Care (National CLAS Standards) are updated to ensure a stronger platform for health equity.

This information for this article is provided by the HHS Office of Minority Health. For the full Heckler Report visit www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov

Hold These Dates...

- **May 8**
Research Initiatives in Sickle Cell Disease. Informational Dinner
- **May 7-June 11th**
CDSMP 6 Week Class
Willingboro Public Library
10:00am-12:30pm
- **June 20**
Sickle Cellabration
Commemorating World Sickle Cell Disease Day
- **August 29**
SCDAA National Walk-
Baltimore, MD
- **September 22-26th**
SCDAA Convention
Baltimore, MD



On a local note...

2015 The SCANJ, in cooperation with the family of the late Sajade R. Griffin, has established a fellowship to support medical students who have demonstrated a commitment to treat adults with sickle cell disease. If you are interested in serving on the Sajade R. Griffin Fellowship Advisory Committee please contact our office at 973 482-9070.



Tax deductible donations accepted by mail and via
www.sicklecellnewjersey.org

