



Say It Loud!

Volume 10, Issue 2

May-June E-Newsletter

A Message From The Executive Director:

At the Sickle Cell Association of New Jersey (SCANJ) we Say It Loud! as we raise the volume about sickle cell disease. I must admit that the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the current civil unrest and cries for social justice have thrown me into a “no time for talking mode.” These are turbulent times that scream for a Call to Action!

Action is necessary because the sickle cell community is more susceptible to the ravages of COVID-19. Action is necessary when Social Justice protesters become victims themselves to the police brutality that they raise their voices against. Action is necessary to eliminate the health disparities that plague the African American community

It is time to answer that Call to Action and be a force for good.

The SCANJ is taking action by supporting you with #SCANJSafeAtHome. This is our theme as we provide COVID-19 Relief and support your staying safely at home. That support takes many forms, such as online programs, gift cards for essentials, scholarships, online workshops and more.

We continue to work from home, however, we have a full plate of activities and services for you. Coming up June 19 is World Sickle Cell Disease Day. We will Shine The Light on SCD with A Sickle Celebration. Details are below along with additional ways for you to sign up and take action. We are here for you, ready and willing to uplift and support. ~Mary Bentley LaMar



SCANJ Operations during the COVID-19 Social Distance Restrictions:

Please note that for the next several months we will be working from home, however, we are still available by phone at 973 482-9070 and email at sicklecellanj@gmail.com. In addition, we have planned several online programs to keep us connected.

Afternoon Tea Talks

Tuesday's at 5:00PM we host the weekly series "**Afternoon Tea Talks.**" The talks are teleconferences that allow us to check in on each other, get inspired and learn any new resources for the SCD community during this COVID-19 crisis. Registration will be on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com) or accessible via the events tab on www.sicklecellnewjersey.org.

If you have a particular concern please call our office and reach out to our Community Health Workers. We are here for you.

THE SICKLE CELL ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY
INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR



WORLD SICKLE CELL DISEASE DAY
SICKLE
CELL ABRATION

8:00 PM • FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2020



THE FRANCES THOMPSON WALTON SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED.
SHINE THE LIGHT ON SICKLE CELL DISEASE JOIN THE SOCIAL MEDIA
AWARENESS CAMPAIGN #MASKUP4SICKLECELL

THIS EVENT IS FREE, PLEASE RSVP VIA THE EVENTS TAB
WWW.SICKLECELLNEWJERSEY.ORG/EVENT
OR CALL 973.482.9070





“Shine the Light on Sickle Cell Disease”

Individuals living with sickle cell disease are more susceptible to COVID 19. So, please, “mask up” to help protect them.

Join us on June 19th on Social Media (@SCDAAorg) in support of sickle cell by doing the following:

1

#MaskUp4SickleCell

- Wear a red mask and post your photo on social media on June 19th.
- Ask your friends to create their own post to share, or at least share your post.

facebook.com/
ShineTheLightOnSickleCell

facebook.com/
SickleCellNewJersey

2

Raise awareness by sharing these facts:

- Sickle cell disease affects individuals of all races. It's a BLOOD disease, not a Black disease.
- It is in your genes. It is NOT contagious.
- Individuals with sickle cell disease are not drug addicts, they need pain relief.
- If both parents have sickle cell trait they can have a child with sickle cell disease.
- GET TESTED to know for sure.

3

#ShineTheLightOnSickleCell

Share your personal experiences with sickle cell disease.

Together we can make a difference breaking the sickle cycle.

<https://www.sicklecellnewjersey.org/event>

Register and VOTE!

Elected leaders know that an involved voting citizen is one to listen to. You can raise the volume from the sickle cell community in addressing health disparities by demanding better health care. But first, you must register and then you must VOTE! Visit www.whenweallvote.org for more information.

June 16, 2020 is the last day to register to vote in the New Jersey Primary Election.

July 7, 2020 Primary Election Day

October 13, 2020 last day to register to vote for the General (including Presidential) Election

November 3, 2020 General Election Day

Register for the Poor People's Campaign

SCANJ partners with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated North Atlantic Region, to drive registration for the Poor Peoples Campaign Digital March on June 20th. Please use this [registration](#) link to sign up and ask others to do the same.

Mary Bentley LaMar
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