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:**

November 6th SCANJ's Research Project; "We'll Take The Village Engaging The Community To Better Health." Meeting 7:00pm project is on http:// www.pcori.org/research-results Call us at 973 482-9070

21st 3rd Annual Statewide Sickle **Cell Disease Symposium and** Dr. Charles F. Whitten Award Ceremony. 9:00am-2:30pm. Liberty Science Center in Jersey City.

### December 3,4,7 & 8

**Stanford School of Medicine's Diabetes Self Management 4 Day** Peer Leader Certification Course. 9:30am-4:00pm each day. Living Springs 600 Parkview St., Delanco To register call 973 482-9070

December Holiday Parties with Kenta Klaus. Special Thanks to NOBLE our Toyland Sponsors These parties are FREE for families effected by sickle cell disease. All others are Merrymakers by making a donation of \$25. per adult and \$10.00 per child.

11th Holiday Party Central 6:30-8:00pm Location TBA

17th Holiday Party South 6-8pm Garden State Discovery Children's Museum in Cherry Hill

19th Holiday Party North 3:00pm-5:00pm Van Vleck House in Montclair

Register via the events tab on sicklecellnewjersey.org or call 973 482-9070.

> SCANJ is the New Jersey Chapter of the





# Say It Loud! November

Sickle Cell News You Can Sickle Cell Association of New Jersey P.O. Box 9501 Newark, NJ 07104

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### An Attitude of Gratitude for our Dr. Charles F. Whitten Awardees...



Mary Bentley LaMar Founder

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As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, I am elated to share the appreciation that our agency has for those who have done outstanding work in the sickle cell community. We honor them with the Dr. Charles F. Whitten Awards. The ceremony will take place during the Statewide Sickle Cell Disease Symposium (see below).

Join us in celebrating this year's "Whitten" honorees. They are: **Executive Director** 

- Dominique Goodson. Advocate of The Year
- Mariana Garcia, Volunteer of The Year
- Douglas Hawkins Step 4 Step, Outstanding Community . Service
  - Humanity Baptist Church Newark, Rev. Robert DeVeaux Pastor-Outstanding Sickle Cell Sabbath Partner
- Rafat Ahmed M.D., of Cooper Hospital in Camden. Outstanding Health Care Professional

We're also thankful for the ongoing work of The Village; SCD Advisory Committee in considering what research questions will make a difference for individuals living with sickle cell disease.

And on behalf of the children, we extend thanks to the National Organization of Black Law Executives (Northern NJ and Central NJ Chapters) for their toy drives that support our December Holiday Party Program.

Allow me to conclude with a "shout out" to all who supported the 24 Seven Kick Off Party and especially New Jersey City University's (NJCU) Office of Community Service. Thanks NJCU for getting this party started toward September 30, 2016! Blessings flow... ~Mary

SCANJ Mission Statement

To advocate for and enhance our membership's ability to improve the quality of health, life and services for individuals, families and communities affected by sickle cell disease and related conditions, while promoting the search for a cure for all people in the world with sickle cell disease.

## The Statewide Sickle Cell Disease Symposium...November 21st!

Be sure to arrive early. You don't want to miss a thing...including eligibility for a special drawing only for those who arrive before 9:00am!

Below are comments from survey's taken after the 2014 symposium...

""This is my first time and I absolutely love it. It was well organized and very timely."

"I was very enlightened today and felt very good about being able to be here and have around more knowledge about my disease."

"I enjoyed the entire symposium. I was educated on many areas that I did not know."

"I tremendously enjoyed the Big Apple Playback Theatre."

Most valuable.. "the lab exhibition that allowed the children to understand the science of sickle cell."

"I learned a lot and the food was great."

"Cant wait till next year." Good news... the waiting is over.

We encourage you to register before November 17th if you want the FREE early bird registration. Registration is \$25.00 beginning November 17th.



The planning committee is preparing a great symposium for you (pg 2). It is suitable for individuals living with sickle cell disease, their loved ones, health care professionals including physicians who provide care for patients with the condition from infancy to adulthood, ER staff, nurses, social workers, students, and anyone interested in increasing their knowledge of sickle cell disease and sickle cell trait.

SCANJ's Annual Statewide SCD Symposium is made possible due to the support of generous donors, volunteers, and the staff of the SCANJ.

# WWW.SICKLECELLNEWJERSEY.ORG

