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:**

December 3rd Central Jersey Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Awards Brunch. SCANJ Founder, Mary Bentley La-Mar, and 7 others will be honored. 10:00 AM Pines Manor in Edison. Call 908 756-0727.

6th Connections Support Group Tuesday at 7:00 PM Deborah's Jazz Café 18 Greene Street in Newark.

Holiday Parties- RSVP Now ..



- 9th Holiday Party Central Friday 6:00 PM –9:000PM in Freehold
- 15th Holiday Party South Thursday at 6:00 PM-8 PM in Cherry Hill
- 19th Holiday Party North Saturday 3:00 PM-5:00 PM in Montclair

Special thanks to The National Organization of Black Law Executives (Northern and Central NJ Chapters) for their toy drive support. And thanks to Prolong Pharmaceuticals and other Merrymakers who help make the season bright for families affected by sickle cell disease.

January 10– February 14, 2017 Take Control of Your Health Diabetes Self Management Workshop in Newark Tuesdays at 11:00am.

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

> SCANJ is the New Jersey Chapter of the



# Bickle Cell Association of New Jersey P.O. Box 9501 Newark, NJ 07104

#### Kenta Klaus is Coming to Town!



sue II

Mary Bentley LaMar Founder

Executive Director

Without your active engagement, those accomplishments would be few. This past month, we partnered with Newark Beth Israel Hospital's Valerie

I am soul satisfied because 2016 has

been a year of increased programs,

services and research for the sickle

thanks to funding from the SCDAA

Sickle Cell Disease Newborn Screen-

ing Program, The NJ Office of Minority

and Multicultural Health and the Patient Centered Outcomes Research

Institute. The 2016 Milestones (page

2) make note of our accomplishments.

cell community. Much of this has been

Fund to host an American Red Cross Blood Drive and Be The Match Bone Marrow Donor Drive. Kudos to Lateasha Grant-Mack and her colleagues at "The Beth" for pushing the blood drive to exceed the goal. Yay!! Also, last month, we enjoyed 3 SCANJ Get Connected POP Up

events; starting with the Cirque Du Soleil then the movie Moana

#### **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.

Let's continue the celebration. I heard that Kenta Klaus is coming to town. (Santa's brother from another mother). He's making stops at three locations in New Jersey just for us. Join in the festivities by making your RSVP now for the Holiday Party most convenient for you and your family.

You may remember that our motto is "SCANJ equals faith with good works for sickle cell disease." In this season of giving, I have faith that good works will continue to benefit the sickle cell community now and in the years to come. Happy Holidays! ~Marv

# Reflections On A Very Good Year!

and finishing up with the NJ Devils Hockey Game.



different topics explored through

workshops, a Lunch and Learn and the

Youth Research Expedition. We were

inspired by the Big Apple Playback Theatre.

Attendees also participated in a Village

Town Hall and Afterwords Networking, and

Special thanks go to NOVARTIS for their

generous sponsorship in supporting this

Be there November 18, 2017 for the 5th

Annual Statewide Sickle Cell Symposium,

same place, same time, great experience.

they enjoyed the Science Center.

endeavor.

We did it a g a i n ! Success with the 4th A n n u a l State wide Sickle Cell D is e a s e Symposium.

 

 Research Expedition Cracking the Code
 State wide Sickle Cell D is e as e Symposium.
 The Ogunyimika Family Advocate of the Year

 Over 130 attendees came and were engaged from start to finish. There were 6
 Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Chi Sigma Chapter and Xi Theta Chapter Outstanding Community Service

> Marcus Stevensen, RN RWJBarnabas Health Newark Beth Israel Outstanding Health Care Professional

Join us in recognizing the 2016

Dr. Charles F. Whitten Honorees

Claudene McLeod

**Outstanding Volunteer** 

We appreciate the support of The SCANJ Board Officers Ansley LaMar, Ph. D., President Vallerie Cleveland, Treasurer Beverly Lucas, Secretary Joy Elaine Daley, Member At Large Deborah M. Wilson, Member At Large





SCANJ Board President is productive at the blood drive

## WWW.SICKLECELLNEWJERSEY.ORG



The Sickle Cell Association of New Jersey Mailing Address P.O. Box 9501 Newark NJ 07104 EIN# 80-0474935 SCANJ is a 501c 3 agency

Phone: 973 482-9070 Fax: 973 485-6591 email: info@sicklecellnewjersey.org or sicklecellanj@gmail.com

# Connections Support Group



Meetings on the first

**Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM. South Jersey** location in the odd numbered months i.e., January, March, May, September and November. **North Jersey** location in the even numbered months i.e., February, April, June, October and December

This month's meeting Tuesday December 6th at 7:00pm-Deborah's Jazz Café 18 Greene St. in Newark (next to City Hall). Parking available. Dinner provided. January Meeting January 3rd at Rochester's in Lawnside. For more information and to RSVP please call our office at 973 482-9070 or Community Outreach Coordinator, Darlene Young at 862 371-7138.

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

# RSVP via www.sicklecellnewjersey.org event brite



FRIDAY DEC. 9<sup>TH</sup> 6:00PM TO 9:00P i Play America 110 Schanck RDAD • FREEHOLD NEW JERSEY

THURSDAY DEC. 15<sup>th</sup> 6:00PM - 8:00PM Garden State Discovery Childrens Museum 2040 Springdale Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003

SATURDAY DEC. 17<sup>TH</sup> 3:00PM - 5:00PM VAN VLECK HOUSE & GARDENS 21 VAN VLECK ST, MONTGLAIR, NJ 07042

FESTIVE GAMES • CAROLING • TOYLAND • GIFTS • FOOD

SPECIAL APPEARANCE BY

THIS EVENT IS FREE FOR FAMILIES AFFECTED BY SICKLE CELL DISEASE ALL OTHERS ARE MERRY MAKERS \$25 ADULTS 2016 Milestones for SCANJ

Marked our 7th Year in operation
Significantly increased community outreach and partnerships
Built agency capacity to support paid staff and more support for volunteers
Advanced to Tier II Award from the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute.

•Hosted a Road Trip to the SCDAA Convention in Baltimore

•Established POP Up events providing free fun outings for families •Exceeded the 24 Seven Line Dance

Marathon Fundraising goal with \$18,000 in donations.

 Renewed grants from the NJ Dept. of Minority and Multicultural Health for the Stanford School of Medicine's Chronic Disease Self Management and Diabetes Self Management Programs
 Continued signature events such as

the Sickle Cellabration, December Holiday Parties, Health Fairs, Family Support, Scholarships, Kente Carpet Movies and Statewide SCD Symposium

State Lead for "Get Connected"
SCDAA's Patient Powered Registry.
Increased advocacy with training and voter registration at all SCANJ events
Started Connections Support Groups

