



February 2020

Dear Community Partner,

**I'm reaching out with a bold ask today, inviting you to partner with the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America – Michigan Chapter as a Host Committee member of our 2020 Sickle Cell Matters Walk.**

This is an honorary role which allows you to showcase you and your organization's support to increasing knowledge around the most common genetic disorder in the United States and a condition that affects African Americans more than any other population in the world.

**The 2020 Sickle Cell Matters Walk takes place Saturday, Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History from 9 a.m. – noon.** The Walk brings over 1,000 people together annually to raise consciousness about the disease and its impact. More than just an awareness event, we walk to raise funds, promote the need for additional research, and combat medical inequities often faced by sickle cell patients. While new treatments have arrived and others are in development, the impact of sickle cell remains a debilitating factor in our community.

As a Host Committee member, we simply ask that you lend your name to the cause and engage your online, social, professional, and/or faith-based networks in spreading the word about the Sickle Cell Matters Walk and our upcoming Trait Consciousness Campaign that will launch in conjunction with World Sickle Cell Day on June 19. Your estimated time of commitment is less than one hour per month. Literature and messaging language would be provided to you, however, simply sharing from SCDA-MI's online posts would work as well. Your presence at the Walk would also be greatly appreciated. Your name and organization will be listed on our 2020 Sickle Cell Matters Walk letterhead, on our website at [scaami.org](http://scaami.org), in our sponsorship proposal, and wherever else we can highlight your support. You would also be included in day-of materials at the Walk.

If you're able to accept our invitation, welcome and thank you! I ask that you complete the attached/enclosed information form so that we have your most up-to-date organizational and contact information. If you're unable to partner with us at this time, we appreciate your consideration and hope to find ways to work together in the future. Feel free to call me at 313.864.4406, ext. 111, with questions or for additional information. Whichever way you decide, we thank you for your time and your work in our community.

In power,  
Stefanie Worth  
Director of Operations & Outreach



## 2020 Sickle Cell Matters Walk Fact Sheet

### **About Sickle Cell Disease**

**Over 100,000 Americans are currently living with sickle cell and its effects impact the entire family.** Complications are often devastating, resulting in severe pain, anemia, infection, stroke and more. It is particularly common among those whose ancestors came from sub-Saharan Africa, Spanish-speaking regions in the Western Hemisphere, Saudi Arabia, India and Mediterranean countries such as Turkey, Greece and Italy. **Nearly 3,000 people in Michigan are living with sickle cell and approximately 1,600 of those individuals live in metro Detroit.** Every child born in the U.S. is tested for SCD at birth.

### **About the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America – Michigan Chapter**

The Sickle Cell Disease Association of America – Michigan Chapter, provides education, assistance, and advocacy to individuals living with and families affected by sickle cell disease. SCDA-MI provides counseling, support groups, referrals for financial and medical help, and connects students and job seekers with school, college and employment assistance, in addition to raising public awareness and sending children to summer camp each year. The agency also coordinates newborn screening for babies born in Michigan. Appointments are available and walk-ins are welcome for on-site blood tests to diagnose sickle cell trait and disease. SCDA-MI's services are available throughout Michigan and span lifetime needs.

### **About the 2020 Sickle Cell Matters Walk**

The 2020 Sickle Cell Matters walk brings nearly 600 people together to raise consciousness around the most common genetic disorder in the United States. More than just an awareness event, we walk to raise funds, promote the need for additional research, and combat medical inequities often faced by sickle cell patients. As SCDA-MI's largest annual fundraising and friendraising activity, the Sickle Cell Matters Walk invites participation from those living with and impacted by SCD as well as allies, advocates, corporate, and community partners.

### **About the 2020 Sickle Cell Matters Walk Host Committee**

The 2020 Sickle Cell Matters Walk Host Committee consists of influential individuals from metro Detroit and throughout Michigan who are passionate about heightening knowledge and action around sickle cell, and driving good health overall in communities of color. Host Committee members serve as volunteer champions to help drive promotion of the event.



**2020 Sickle Cell Matters Walk – Host Committee Member Information Sheet**

Saturday, September 19, 2020 | 9 a.m. - Noon

Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, 315 E. Warren St., Detroit MI 48201

Please return form along with a recent headshot to Stefanie Worth at [worths@scdaami.org](mailto:worths@scdaami.org) by Feb. 7, 2020.

**Yes, I will join the 2020 Sickle Cell Matters Walk Host Committee!**

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Affiliation</b>	
<b>Title</b>	
<b>Street Address (Work)</b>	
<b>City / State / Zip</b>	
<b>Work Phone</b>	
<b>Street Address (Home)</b>	
<b>Other Phone</b>	
<b>City / State / Zip</b>	
<b>Preferred Email</b>	

**Please indicate any of the following that reflect your connection to sickle cell:**

- I have  a sickle cell condition  the sickle cell trait
- Parent of a child who has  a sickle cell condition  the sickle cell trait
- Family member of a person who has  a sickle cell condition  the sickle cell trait
- Member of a  company  organization  house of worship that promotes health and wellness
- None  Other (Please explain other): \_\_\_\_\_

**(OPTIONAL) Please provide a statement explaining your interest in sickle cell and what you hope to achieve as a member of the 2020 Sickle Cell Matters Walk Host Committee. This information may be used in printed and digital materials, on our web site, etc. to promote the event and your participation. (You may attach additional sheets if necessary.):**

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**Thank you!**