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World Sickle Cell Day is June 19th!

Join us for a weekend filled with awareness, action and activities as we celebrate 2020 World Sickle Cell Day from June 19-21.

For information on World Sickle Cell Day activities, the latest on our Sickle Cell Matters Walk, ongoing updates regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, or to get your #SAFER card, visit our website at

www.scdami.org

FRIDAY, JUNE 19: #MaskUp4SickleCell for World Sickle Cell Day

Grab a red mask and get ready to #MaskUp4SickleCell on World Sickle Cell Day. This is a day to create awareness and inspire action among individuals with sickle cell and the allies in our community.

On Friday, June 19, put on your red mask (whatever red cloth you have handy to use), and head over to Facebook to post a selfie. Have fun and edit your photo with a note about what your mask represents for your life with sickle cell and then write a post about what's #BehindTheMask. Invite your friends and family to join in supporting the cause by posting themselves in red masks, too.



We'll have a special frame you can use on Facebook. You can also take a screenshot of that photo to post on Instagram, Twitter and SnapChat. Be sure to tag @sicklecellmichigan so we can share your post. Watch our **social media pages** next week for the latest updates and how to join the full campaign.

SATURDAY, JUNE 20TH: Virtual Graduation Open House

Congratulations Class of 2020!

We're recognizing our graduating sickle cell Warriors with a Virtual Open House on Saturday, June 20 as part of our

World Sickle Cell Day weekend. Do you know someone who should be included?

To be eligible, the student must have sickle cell, live in Michigan and be a December 2019 or Spring/Summer 2020 graduate from high school, college or trade school. Children of individuals with sickle cell who are graduating within these time frames are also eligible.

The graduate will need to complete an information form and send us photos no later than midnight, Sunday, May 31.

For all the details, please visit our **Class of 2020** page. Spread the word!



SUNDAY, JUNE 21: Sickle Sabbath

We invite you to mark our first Sickle Sabbath in your place of worship on Saturday, June 20, or Sunday June 21 (depending on when you observe your sabbath).

While sickle cell disease predominately affects people of African, Latino and Middle Eastern descent, it can affect *anyone* of any ethnicity or nationality.

All faiths and denominations are encouraged to join us in educating their congregations about sickle cell disease and the importance of knowing your sickle cell trait status.



Sickle Sabbath flyers, fact sheets and a social media graphic are available on our web site at www.scdami.org/sicklesabbath. Participation is free, however, love offerings that day are welcome to support our education, outreach and advocacy services.

To join the event, talk with your worship leader or health ministry and share the Sickle Sabbath materials for distribution to your congregation members. We also encourage you to post and share the information on social media pages. For additional information, please **email us** or call 313.864.4406.

It's time to get ready for the 2020 Sickle Cell Matters Walk!



Registration for our 2020 Sickle Cell Matters Walk is open at www.scdami.org/2020walk.

Our 2020 Walk features a Warrior-focused #SickleSlide challenge, a salute to our Legacy Warriors (ages 50 and up), voter registration, and all the prizes, giveaways and fun you've come to expect plus more - whether we're walking virtually or in person.

Times are uncertain, but one thing's for sure: The need to keep our cause in front of the world has never been greater. COVID-19 has brought new attention to medical inequity. We'll stay on the front lines today and in the future.

Visit our [2020 Sickle Cell Matters Walk page](#) to sign up for the #SickleSlide challenge and we'll send you a link for practicing. If you're a sickle cell Warrior who's 50 and older in 2020, sign up to be recognized on our web site, social media pages, and on the day of the event. And, of course, you can [register for the walk today](#). Your donations and team efforts support existing and expanded programming at SCDAAMI. #sicklecellmatterswalk

Questions about anything in this newsletter? Contact us at info@scdaami.org

LEARN MORE

Podcasts

[Cheat Codes: A Sickle Cell Podcast](#)
[Sickle Cell 101](#)

Online Sickle Cell Communities

[oneSCDvoice](#) was created with the vision of empowering those impacted by sickle cell disease through facilitating access to information and support from the sickle cell disease community.

[Generation S](#) is encouraging those who live with sickle cell disease to share their experiences. Together, we're turning the page on the silence surrounding sickle cell disease.

[Find a hematologist](#) through this zip code-based search. (We do not endorse the physicians listed. Use proper care in researching their expertise.) You can also [contact our office](#) for suggestions provided by existing patients/clients.

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