

Calendar of Events

- Aug 11** • Spotlight on sickle Cell Seminar: Precautions & Consequences Associated with Sickle Cell Trait • Doubletree Hotel Executive Meeting Center, PBG • **Athletic Coaches, Trainers, Band Directors, ROTC & Book Camp Instructors - This seminar is for You!**
- Aug 15** • Back to School Picnic • Okeehetee Park
- Aug 29** • Gigantic Garage Sale • South Florida Fairgrounds
- Sept 17** • Medical Seminar • TBD
- Sept 19** • Annual Open House • Sickle Cell Foundation Headquarters
- Sept 30-Oct 3** • 37th Annual Convention • Sickle Cell Disease Association of America • Orlando, FL
- Oct 29** • Bloomingdale's Shopping Event • All South FL Stores
- Nov 7** • 5th Annual Walk of Support • Gaines Park, WPB
- Dec 2** • Annual Meeting • Sickle Cell Foundation Headquarters
- Dec 19** • Client Christmas Party • TBD
- March 6, 2010** • Eva W. Mack 21st Annual Sickle Cell Luncheon • TBD

Family Support Group Meetings

- Belle Glade • 3rd Saturday, 11-12noon
 South County • 2nd Wednesday, 6-8pm
 West Palm Beach • 3rd Saturday, 11-12noon
 Indiantown • 4th Wednesday, 6-7pm
 Fort Pierce • 3rd Thursday, 6-7pm

Contact Foundation Office at 561-833-3113 for more info.



Events

The Eva W. Mack 20th Annual Sickle Luncheon was held in March at the Palm Beach Gardens Marriott. Nearly 300 guests were treated to musical entertainment by Ms. Felicia Dominique Sterling, Mr. Carl King and Smith Memorial Ensemble. Ms. Tammy Files presented a dramatic expression and Ms. Latashia Nicole presented a poetry selection.



G. Russell & C. Smith

Mr. Ted White, WPBF Channel 25 ABC, served as Master of Ceremonies. During the program, Children's Services Council was honored for its support of the Foundation, along with the McCarthy Family Foundation. Project Linus also received an award for their contributions to clients. Project Linus donates custom hand-knitted blankets to sick children. Mrs. Mary Montgomery served as major benefactor and an Honorary Co-chair, along with Congressman Alcee Hastings, Attorney and Mrs. F. Malcolm Cunningham, Jr., Mr. Lawrence Gordon and Attorney Salesia Smith-Gordon. Next year's luncheon is being planned for March 6, 2010.



Poli Family

planned for March 6, 2010.



Sickle Cell Foundation of Palm Beach County and Treasure Coast, Inc.
1600 North Australian Avenue
West Palm Beach, FL 33407-5621

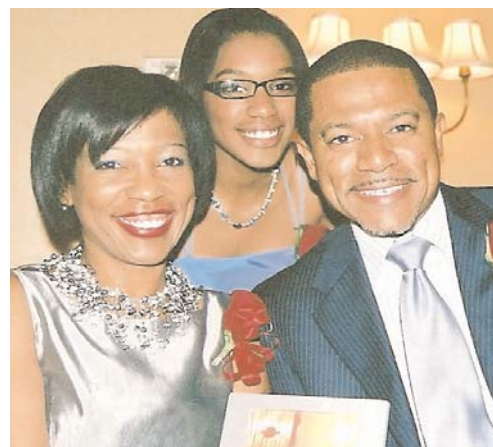
Board of Directors

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Yvette L. Coursey, DPA

Gala News



S. Gill, B. Gill & W. Gill

The Annual Gala was held in May at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Ms. AnEta Sewell, Florida Water Management, served as Mistress of Ceremonies. Florida Power & Light was honored for being a good corporate neighbor through charitable donations, community partnerships and employee volunteerism. Retired Palm Beach County Commissioner Addie Green was honored for her contributions in the political realm and Dr. Catherine Lowe, Board Certified Ophthalmologist, was honored for her contributions in the arts and cultural community. Miss Giovanna Poli served as the "Angel of Hope" and presented a speech about her life with Sickle Cell. Ten-year-old Giovanna is the 2008-2009 Poster Child. Guests were motivated by a high energy presentation given by Attorney A. Wayne Gill. Mr. Gill an equity partner with Adorno & Yoss LLC and a published author, Tales My Grandma Told Me - A Business Diversity Fable. Mr. Gill spoke on the importance of giving - at all personal financial levels.

Membership Application New Renewal

We are accepting applications for membership and would like you to become a part of the Sickle Cell Foundation of Palm Beach County, Inc. Please complete the form below and return it along with your check/money order. You may also wish to dedicate your membership/contribution in recognition of an anniversary, birthday, or other special occasions, or in memory of a loved one.

Please circle the level of membership - thank you.

Individual:	\$25	\$50	\$100	\$1,000	Other
Organization:	\$200	\$500	\$1,000	\$5,000	Other
Corporation:	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$5,000	\$10,000

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

In memory of: _____

Other: _____

"Online Donations! www.sicklecellpalmbeach.org"

Your feedback is important to us. Please contact our office at 561.833.3113



**Sickle Cell Foundation of Palm Beach County
and Treasure Coast, Inc.**

**1600 North Australian Avenue, West Palm Beach, FL 33407
(561) 833-3113 • www.sicklecellpalmbeach.org**

“Become a beacon of light to those seeking a ray of hope.”

A Message from the Chair

Although the lazy days of summer are upon us, as you browse through our Summer Newsletter, you will see that the Foundation staff and volunteers have been anything, but lazy. *To improve the quality of life for persons affected by sickle cell disease/trait and their families, while educating the public about this very serious blood disorder and providing services to persons with other health challenges and their families, we must keep awareness in the forefront.* To do this, we host a combination of educational seminars, workshops, health fairs, community events and fundraising events. I hope that you have been our guest at one time or another. If you have not, please plan to join us soon, perhaps at Open House, as we celebrate National Sickle Cell Awareness Month in September.



Keely Gideon-Taylor

Keeping the public aware of sickle cell disease/trait allows us to grow supporters, donors, community and corporate partners and membership - all crucial to satisfy the mission. Of course the real success of our mission lies with the hundreds of clients who benefit from our services. To our clients - we are committed to serving you and your families. To our supporters, donors, partners and members - we appreciate your contributions. To our friends - we invite you to become members and also help fulfill the mission. To you all - we appreciate your support of the Sickle Cell Foundation of Palm Beach County & Treasure Coast, Inc.

Gratefully,

Keely Gideon-Taylor



Yvette Coursey

Greeting from the CEO

Thank you. It is with your support that we have been able to see your numbers and our entire caseload rising. As you can see from the articles in this newsletter, the past few months have been quite busy. This year started off with our participation in the Riviera Beach Parade and the Tri-City parade in the Glades in celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The 7th Annual Gospel Concert was held in February and, of course, the Eva W. Mack 20th Annual Sickle Cell Luncheon took place in March. The Annual Golf Gala and Golf Tournament took place in May. Upcoming events include our Back to School Picnic, the Gigantic Garage Sale, Bloomingdale's Shopping Event and our traditional Thanksgiving food packages and Christmas Party for clients. September is National Sickle Cell Awareness Month and Open House will be held September 19, 2009. Our Annual Walk will be held November 7 and you will be hearing more about that in weeks to come.

Again, we appreciate your support and thank you for all that you do to help us in our quest to improve the quality of life for our clients.

Peace,

Yvette

Spreading Awareness About Sickle Cell While Having Fun!

Sickle Cell Foundation of Palm Beach County and Treasure Coast, Inc. was one of the many agencies that supported the Glades 2009 “Children’s WEEK”. Children’s Day in the Park took place in April at Paul Rardin Park in Belle Glade. More than 600 children from the Glades area participated in activities planned by the staff.

Anquan Boldin, NFL Player for the Arizona Cardinals, hosted a Community Event in Pahokee, his hometown. Sickle Cell Foundation of PBC & Treasure Coast was one of many participating agencies distributing literature and increasing awareness about the disease. The Foundation hosted a Community Educational Seminar and Health Fair this spring in conjunction with the Martin County Department of Parks & Recreation. Activities took place at Vince Bocchino Community Center in Jensen Beach. Sickle Cell Disease Association of American, through a grant from Novartis Pharmaceutical, was the underwriter of this event.

The Palm Beach Improv was the seen for a Comic Relief Benefit. The event featured All Star Comedy Showcase Comedian Derek Richards.



Sickle Cell Corner: A Global Concern

The Sickle Cell Disease Association of America observed the First Sickle Cell Disease World Day on June 19, 2009. The observance was a product of the December 18, 2008 United Nations Resolution that called for the recognition of sickle cell anemia as a public health problem and one of the world's foremost genetic diseases. The resolution calls for member States and the organizations of the United Nations system to raise awareness of sickle cell disease on June 19th of each year at the national and international level. This year's public celebration was held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York in partnership the World Health Organization, United National Children's Emergency Fund and the United Nations.



In the United States people are often surprised when they learn that a person who is not African American has sickle cell disease. The disease originated in at least 4 places in Africa and in the Indian/Saudi Arabian subcontinent. It exists in all countries of Africa and in areas where Africans have migrated.

It is most common in West and Central Africa where as many as 25% of the people have sickle cell trait and 1-2% of all babies are born with a form of the disease. In the United States with an estimated population of over 270 million, about 1,000 babies are born with sickle cell disease each year. In contrast, Nigeria, with an estimated 1997 population of 90 million, 45,000-90,000 babies with sickle cell disease are born each year.

The transatlantic slave trade was largely responsible for introducing the sickle cell gene into the Americas and the Caribbean. However, sickle cell disease had already spread from Africa to Southern Europe by the time of the slave trade, so it is present in Portuguese, Spaniards, French Corsicans, Sardinians, Sicilians, mainland Italians, Greeks, Turks and Cypriots. Sickle cell disease appears in most of the Near and Middle East countries including Lebanon, Israel, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Yemen.

The condition has also been reported in India and Sri Lanka. Sickle cell disease is an international health problem and truly a global challenge.

All these countries must work together to solve the problem and find effective treatments and ultimately a cure. The knowledge and expertise in the management of sickle cell disease acquired in the technologically advanced countries must be shared with the less developed countries where patients die at alarming rates.

Excerpted from A Comprehensive Guide to SCD & SCDA Services

Woman Volunteer of the Year

Cynthia Simmons was nominated by the Foundation for Woman Volunteer of Year Award to the Junior League of the Palm Beaches. All nominees were honored at a luncheon held at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in February.



Cynthia Simmons

This year, for the first time since they have honored volunteers, there was a tie and all 13 nominees are recognized as Woman Volunteer of the Year. Ms Simmons wears the title well. She has volunteered for the Foundation for several years serving on several committees and helping with the luncheon, golf gala, walk and Christmas toy drive. *Congratulations Cynthia!*

Put On Your Walking Shoes

The 5th Annual Sickle Cell Walk of Support/ is scheduled for Saturday, November 7 at Gaines Park in West Palm Beach. This event will feature a 5K walk through the park, youth entertainment, food and plenty of fun. Walkers, volunteers and sponsors are needed. For more details, visit sicklecellpalmbeach.org or call 561-833-3113.

Save the Date

Annual Open House is scheduled for Sat., September 19, 11am-2pm, on the grounds of our Headquarters Office in West Palm Beach. Fun for the entire family - music, food, entertainment and bounce house.

We will hold our 2009-2010 Poster Child Crowning Ceremony.