

# Sickle Times

(704) 910-2002 - 740 WEST FIFTH STREET, SUITE 210, CHARLOTTE, NC 28202

(Located inside the Urban League Building)

March / April 2018

Bi-Monthly Newsletter



PIEDMONT HEALTH SERVICES AND SICKLE CELL AGENCY

PHSSCA NEWS

## PRESS RELEASE



**Piedmont Health Services and Sickle Cell Agency (PHSSCA)** is pleased to announce that it has received a 2018 grant for the "Sickle Cell Disease Newborn Screening Follow-up Program." The grant was awarded to PHSSCA by the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America and will focus on building a larger community of informed, active and motivated patients.

The goal of the grant is to establish a national infrastructure to ensure that

individuals diagnosed with sickle cell disease (SCD) receive appropriate care coordination and follow-up services including counseling, educational materials and access to a medical home.

### About Piedmont Health Services and Sickle Cell Agency

Established in 1970, PHSSCA is a nonprofit that provides comprehensive sickle cell services in the following seven North Carolina counties: Alamance, Caswell, Forsyth, Guilford, Mecklenburg, Randolph, and Rockingham. Our services include newborn screening for sickle cell trait and sickle cell disease, comprehensive sickle cell case management and genetic counseling. PHSSCA also sponsors an annual "Sickle Cell Summer Enrichment Camp" for children in North Carolina with sickle cell disease, now in its 35<sup>th</sup> year.

### Teen Vision Board Party was so much fun!!

PHSSCA hosted a "Vision Board" event on Jan 25! Vision Board creation is a fun and creative way to help clients become clear on goals, dreams and desires. Vision Boards help transform dreams into reality by using images to define goals and commit to them!

We can't wait to do it again in 2019.



### PHSSCA Services Include:

- \*Community Outreach
- \*Patient Advocacy
- \*Sickle Cell Education
- \*Support Group Meetings
- \*Teen Transition Program
- \*Get Connected
- \*Crisis Assistance Ministries assistance
- \*Loaves & Fishes Food Bank assistance
- \*Medical Insurance assistance
- \*School Visits - 504P / IEP
- \*Job Readiness
- \*Counseling Services
- \*College Readiness Preparation
- \*Annual Christmas Celebration
- \*Voter's Registration assistance
- \*Annual Sickle Cell Run/Walk
- \*Hospital Visits
- \*Annual Book Bag Giveaway
- \*\*And MUCH MORE



### The faces of those serving in your local Sickle Cell Office—Charlotte



Executive Director  
Kathy Norcott



Program Director  
Azizi Coleman



SC Health Educator  
Christy Smith



SC Health Educator  
Azizah Hawkins



Community Health Worker  
Kimberly Fowler





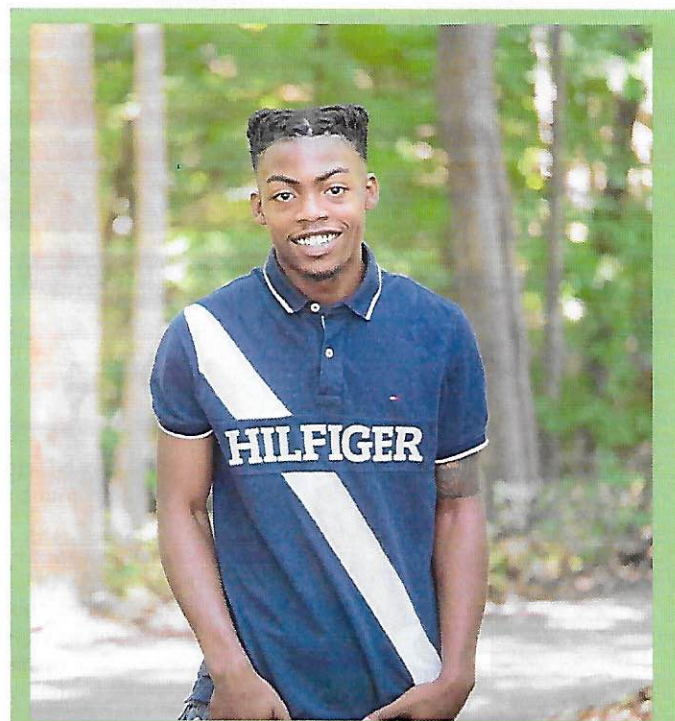
**Kendall, Hgb SS**

Kendall is a 13-year-old 8th grader living with sickle cell disease. The beginning of the school year, teachers requested Kendall to complete a school project. Kendall states majority of his classmates found it easy to focus their projects on cancer, while he wanted to focus on other kids that looked like him and were thriving through sickle cell disease like him.

The Kendall Gives Project was created by Kendall to donate board games to adolescents and teens who are hospitalized due to pain episodes. Kendall states that when he is hospitalized for pain crises he plays board games with family and friends to help him refocus and take his mind off pain.

Kendall collected lots of board games and donated them to Piedmont Health Services & Sickle Cell Agency to distribute to children and teens while in the hospital.

Kendall's class presentation about SCD and his giving project awarded him an "A" for the project! Congrats Kendall!! We honor you!



**Kenneth, Hgb SS**

Kenneth is a 20 year-old full-time college student at CPCC focused on obtaining a degree in Civil Engineering and living with sickle cell disease.

Kenneth is an active supporter and volunteer for Piedmont Health Services & Sickle Cell Agency. Kenneth actively participates in raising awareness for SCD with PHSSCA.

While volunteering for PHSSCA, Kenneth has done TV interviews to talk about his triumphs, pains, and how people can support PHSSCA and those affected by SCD.

Kenneth participated in PHSSCA's Teen Transition Program and speaks to what he gained from participating in the program. Kenneth continues to seek out sickle cell information/education to be the expert of his health. Annually, Kenneth volunteers in the PHSSCA 3K Sickle Cell Run/Walk.

We are grateful to Kenneth for his commitment to PHSSCA's mission. We honor you.



## Premier Pharmacy & Wellness Center

Your pharmacist is an important part of your healthcare team.

Dr. Martez Prince has over 14 years of pharmacy experience, and patient care is his specialty. Dr. Prince has a personal connection to Sickle Cell Disease and is a major contributor to the local SCD community. Look for him actively participating in raising awareness for sickle cell disease in our community.



**Premier Pharmacy welcomes DPH-Sickle Cell Medical Insurance.**

Also, visit the Premier's Wellness Center to establish medical care or for routine check-ups, flu-shots and/or annual physicals.

3010 Monroe Rd #101, Charlotte, NC 28205 — (704) 496-9182



## Upcoming Events

- World Sickle Cell Day—**June 19**
- Sickle Cell Camp—**July 29-August 3**
- PHSSCA Annual Sickle Cell Run/Walk—**September 8**
- Strut for Sickle Cell Fashion Show—September
- National SCDA Convention, Baltimore, MD—**October 9-13**  
Advocacy Day on Capital Hill, DC
- Annual Christmas Celebration—December

## MARCH MADNESS

- Stem Cell Transplantation—  
Q&A Session with Dr. Kent — **March 6**
- Self-Care — Ladies Night — **March 15**
- Opioid Crisis —  
Dr. Ify & Dr. Wyatt talk Pain Meds — **March 28**