



MEMO

Date: September 30, 2022
To: External
From: Sick Cells

RE: September 2022 Policy Memo

September brought us back to the full swing of things! From working on exciting new legislation for sickle cell disease to a whirlwind of Sickle Cell Awareness Month presentations, the Sick Cells team has been hard at work. Here are our September highlights:

1. Sick Cells President, Ashley Valentine, **attended a Senate event** to officially mark the introduction of the [Sickle Cell Disease Treatment Centers Act](#).
 - a. Ashley shares, “The Sickle Cell Disease Treatment Centers Act of 2022 offers a bold, new, system-wide approach to structuring comprehensive care for Sickle Cell Disease. For a community that has lacked full medical and social support, relevant data, and needed auxiliary services for so long, this legislation illustrates what stakeholders might achieve through a collaborative approach with dedicated funding.”
 - b. Read the full press release [here](#).
2. Sick Cells **participated in a meeting with key staff at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)** as part of the [Sickle Cell Disease Partnership](#)
 - a. The group introduced the partnership and our policy priorities and spoke about CMS programs that support sickle cell disease and how programs could be expanded and refined.
3. Sick Cells **met with key staff at the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)**.
 - a. The meeting focused on current CDC programs for sickle cell and opportunities for future collaboration.
 - b. CDC released the most recent issue of [Vital Signs](#), focusing on sickle cell disease for the first time.
4. Sick Cells staff **presented at Cayenne Wellness Center’s 14th Annual Sickle Cell Disease Seminar** on legislative updates.
 - a. The presentation was in collaboration with SCDA and focused on current legislation and how to get involved.

See you in October!

Sick Cells 501 (C)(3) Nonprofit | www.sickcells.org
Mailing Address | 1042 Maple Ave STE 103 | Lisle, IL. 60532
DC Office | 1012 14th Street STE 500 | Washington D.C. 20005
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info@sickcells.org