

# *State of South Carolina*

## *Proclamation*

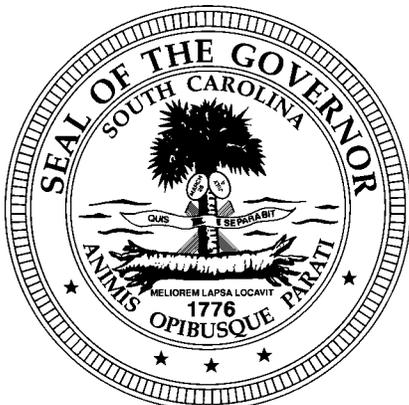
*by*  
*Governor Jim Hodges*

- WHEREAS,** sickle cell disease is a group of inherited red blood cell disorders which causes red blood cells to elongate and clog arteries; and
- WHEREAS,** the World Health Organization estimates that each year thousands of babies worldwide are born with sickle cell anemia; and
- WHEREAS,** sickle cell disease is one of several severe chronic diseases affecting children in South Carolina; and
- WHEREAS,** occurring predominately in African Americans, countless South Carolinians have sickle cell disease; and
- WHEREAS,** though currently no universal cure for sickle cell disease exists, quality treatment and disease management can prevent needless deaths and suffering; and
- WHEREAS,** South Carolina's medical and psychosocial services network provides an effective approach to treatment management and prevention services that alleviates suffering and enhances the lives of citizens with sickle cell disease throughout the Palmetto State.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Jim Hodges, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 2002 as

### **SICKLE CELL DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH**

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to raise public awareness of the treatment options available to our citizens who suffer from sickle cell disease.



*Jim Hodges*

**Jim Hodges**  
**Governor**  
**State of South Carolina**