

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** sickle cell disease is a group of inherited red blood cell disorders that causes these cells to elongate and clog blood vessels, thereby affecting all body systems; and

**WHEREAS,** it is estimated that more than 250,000 babies worldwide are born with sickle cell disease, including approximately 1 of every 400 African American newborns in the Palmetto State; and

**WHEREAS,** while there is no universal cure for sickle cell disease, quality treatment and disease management can control symptoms and limit the occurrence of crises; and

**WHEREAS,** genetic testing and counseling services can help decrease the prevalence of sickle cell disease through family planning and other primary prevention services; and

**WHEREAS,** South Carolina's Medical and psychosocial services network provides an effective approach to treatment management and prevention services to improve the quality of life for citizens with sickle cell disease as well as those who are at risk.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 2016 as**

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

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to raise awareness of treatment options and prevention services and to recognize the individuals and families it affects.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nikki R. Haley".

**NIKKI R. HALEY**  
**GOVERNOR**  
**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**