Resolution No. 1104-2025

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

Recognizing September as National Sickle Cell Awareness Month.

By Council Members Conwell and Griffin

FOR ADOPTION
September 15, 2025

WHEREAS, sickle cell disease is a rare inherited red blood cell condition, that causes abnormal red blood cells which form into a crescent shape, break easily, clump together and block blood flow to organs and tissues; there is no universal cure; and

WHEREAS, complications of sickle cell disease include strokes, anemia, periodic and severe acute pain episodes, decreased quality of life, fatigue, and organ damage and other serious medical complications which can lead to a reduced life expectancy; and

WHEREAS, sickle cell disease is the most common inherited blood disorder in the United States, affecting nearly 100,000 Americans; and

WHEREAS, each September, people living with sickle cell disease, along with caregivers, advocates, healthcare providers and others come together for National Sickle Cell Awareness Month with the goal of helping to improve knowledge and understanding about the disease and to dispel myths and stigmas surrounding it; and

WHEREAS, observing National Sickle Cell Awareness Month also brings attention to the ongoing need for research, better patient care, new treatments and widely available cures; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved two gene therapies to treat sickle cell disease which therapies are the first of their kind and considered to be potentially curative; and

WHEREAS, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health or safety, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

<u>Section 1</u>. That this Council recognizes September as National Sickle Cell Awareness Month.

<u>Section 2</u>. That the Clerk is directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America.

Section 3. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

KC:rns 9/15/2025

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REPORTS

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