



Office of the Mayor

Proclamation

Whereas:

Sickle cell disease (SCD) is the term used to describe a group of inherited blood disorders that affects the hemoglobin component of the red blood cells. Hemoglobin is a protein that carries oxygen from the lungs to different parts of the body. The most common type of SCD is hemoglobin SS disease, also called sickle cell anemia; and

WHEREAS:

In SCD, the red blood cells become hard and sticky and look like a sickle, the sickle cells die early which causes a constant shortage of red blood cells. Sickle cells can also get stuck in small blood vessels, block the flow of blood and oxygen to organs in the body. And these blockages cause repeated episodes of severe pain, organ damage or even stroke; and

WHEREAS:

Sickle cell disease is inherited when a child receives two sickle cell genes – one from each parent. When a person only gets one sickle cell gene it is called Sickle Cell Trait (SCT), they won't have the disease but they can pass it on to his or her children; and

WHEREAS:

Sickle Cell Trait affects one in 12 African- Americans in the United States. People whose families come from Africa, India, Central and South America, the Middle East, Caribbean and Mediterranean counties are most affected by SCT and many are unaware of their status; and

WHEREAS:

Sickle Cell Disease is diagnosed with a simple blood test. Routine newborn screening tests have found one out of every 365 African- American births are positive for Sickle Cell Disease and because children with SCD are at an increased risk of health problems it is important to be diagnosed early.

NOW THEREFORE:

I, David J. Berger, Mayor of the City of Lima, Ohio do hereby proclaim the month of September as

SICKLE CELL AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Lima, Ohio and encourage all citizens to learn about sickle cell disease and how to help the many citizens affected by SCD.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of Lima, Ohio, this 7th day of September, 2019.

DAVID J. BERGER, MAYOR
CITY OF LIMA, OHIO

