

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Proclamation*

**10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY WORLD SICKLE CELL AWARENESS DAY: SHINE THE LIGHT ON SICKLE CELL | 2019**

- WHEREAS,** sickle cell disease is an inherited blood disorder that causes pain, infection, disability, economic strain and even death, primarily among African-American children, and adults; and
- WHEREAS,** no definite cure for this disease exists, although treatment is available to help those with sickle cell lead more productive and rewarding lives; and
- WHEREAS,** treatment of these conditions often requires both emergency department care and hospitalization; and
- WHEREAS,** provisions of services was a collaborative effort between major medical centers, regional educators/counselors, community-based programs, local health departments and the State Laboratory of Public Health; and
- WHEREAS,** many healthcare professionals, regional educators, and community advocates do not receive adequate and current education about sickle cell disease; and
- WHEREAS,** support for research on the treatment and management of this disorder, as well as overall awareness' are vital to improving the health and quality of life for persons with sickle cell disease; and
- WHEREAS,** since 1973, The North Carolina Sickle Cell Syndrome Program has provided quality services throughout the State for patients; and
- WHEREAS,** Sickle Cell Experts and Advocates from Duke University, and Pi Chapter of Chi Eta Phi Sorority are committed to improving the quality of care received by persons with sickle cell disease; and
- WHEREAS,** since 2009, June 19th was officially designated as World Sickle Cell Awareness Day. The international awareness day is observed annually with the goal to increase public knowledge and an understanding of sickle cell disease, and the challenges experienced by patients and their families and caregivers; and
- WHEREAS,** Durham County will “Shine the Light on Sickle Cell” by shining our lights outside the Admin II Building and lighting up the Taurus sculpture in red on June 19, 2019 to raise community awareness and commemorate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of World Sickle Cell Awareness Day.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** I, Wendy Jacobs, Chair of the Durham Board of County Commissioners and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, June 19, 2019 as

**“WORLD SICKLE CELL AWARENESS DAY”**

in Durham County, North Carolina.

This the 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 2019.

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Wendy Jacobs, Chair  
Durham Board of County Commissioners

