



Invitation- Sickle Cell and Thalassemia Action Day Reception Event

Date]

[Address Block]

Dear [Name],

The Sickle Cell Awareness Group of Ontario (SCAGO) in collaboration with the Thalassemia Foundation of Canada (TFC) invites you to participate in their first Action Day Reception Event on March 19th 2014

What is Sickle Cell Disease?

Sickle cell disease (SCD) is a group of serious inherited chronic, blood disorders that can affect all systems of the body and results in significantly reduced quality of life and early death. Sickle Cell Disease is caused by an abnormal form of hemoglobin, the part of the red blood cell that carries oxygen around the body and keeps organs working. The abnormal Sickle Hemoglobin (HbS) does not work properly. The red blood cells become stiff and sticky, forming a sickle shape, leading to blockage of blood flow in the circulation, causing pain and organ damage from oxygen starvation. These abnormal red blood cells are also destroyed quickly, leading to anemia.

As an organization, Sickle Cell Awareness Group of Ontario is committed to increasing awareness about Sickle Cell Disease as well as facilitating better management and care of patients living with the disease. SCAGO represents: Patients with SCD; Parents, carriers, and families of patients with SCD; Health Care Professionals; Educators & Advocates; and Community

What is Thalassemia?

Whereas SCD is due to the body's production of an abnormal form of Hemoglobin, in Thalassemia there is insufficiency in the production of Hemoglobin and red blood cells cannot be produced adequately. Patients with this condition are therefore anemic and depending on the severity of the condition, may require monthly blood transfusions for their entire life (Thalassemia Major), or occasionally (Thalassemia Intermedia).

Thalassemia Foundation of Canada was created to support and fund thalassemia scientific research, treatment, patient services, public awareness and education

Reception: It is my hope that you will be able to attend a reception event in the Legislative Assembly committee room # 230 located on the second floor west side of building or marble floor between 5PM and 7PM on March 19th 2014.

The reception will allow you to mingle with advocates from the sickle cell and thalassemic communities and listen to the health care professionals; the patients and their families speak on the need for a Provincial strategy around the disorders.

We look forward to receiving your availability to attend this event on/before February 20th.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please me using the coordinates below.

On behalf of the representatives from the Sickle Cell and Thalassemia communities, I would like to thank you in advance.

All the best,



Lanre Tunji-Ajayi
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Event is supported by: The Sickle Cell Disease Association of Canada-A non-profit health organization dedicated to increasing awareness about Sickle Cell Disease and enhancing methods of identification, diagnosis, and treatment toward improving the quality of life of affected individuals and their families.

