

Health Resources and Services Administration's Maternal and Child Health Bureau began funding the Sickle Cell Disease Treatment Demonstration Program (SCDTDP) in 2006. It is a demonstration project for the development and establishment of infrastructure and partnerships to enhance the prevention and treatment of sickle cell disease. It is designed to improve and expand patient and provider education and the continuity and coordination of service delivery for individuals with sickle cell disease. The grant cycle will end August 31, 2010.

The program has four grantee networks

- Montgomery, Alabama
- Fayetteville, North Carolina
- Chicago, Illinois
- Cincinnati, Ohio

Collaboration occurs with partners representing

- University health centers that provide primary health care
- Federally qualified health centers
- Comprehensive sickle cell centers
- Community-based sickle cell disease support organizations
- Non-profit entities that work with individuals with sickle cell disease

The National Coordinating Center located at North Carolina's Research Triangle Institute International, works in partnership with Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee and the Sickle Cell Disease Foundation of California. The coordinating center, along with the four grantees and a steering committee are working on project plans that includes:

- 1) the identification of a model protocol for implementing the recommendations of Congress regarding changes that should be made in health care and health education to persons with sickle cell disease, as well as in methods of screening for persons having the disease or are carriers;
- 2) the procedures for implementing this protocol at the four grantee sites; and
- 3) the set of methods for evaluating the degree of success that each grantee has attained and the overall effectiveness of the SCDTDP.

Support is provided through ongoing technical assistance, information exchange; materials review and development; collection, coordination, and distribution of program data, best practices, and findings and sustaining partnerships.