



The William E. Proudford
Sickle Cell Fund, Inc.

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
9 A.M. EDT, August 17, 2009

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**Baltimore Raven Terrell Suggs, TLC's T-Boz and Baltimore native Jackie Gaines
Help Promote Sickle Cell Awareness Week in Baltimore**
*Suggs' Celebrity Weekend and WEPSCF Annual Reception raise awareness and local funds for
sickle cell*

Baltimore – In recognition of National Sickle Cell Awareness Month, the William E. Proudford Sickle Cell Fund (WEPSCF) brings Sickle Cell Awareness Week to Baltimore Sept. 11-17 to raise awareness of the disease and funds for local hospitals treating the disease. Sickle Cell Awareness Week launches with Baltimore Raven and WEPSCF Ambassador Terrell Suggs' Celebrity Weekend and culminates with the 4th Annual Fundraising Reception at the Hyatt Regency in Baltimore on September 17, featuring keynote speaker Jackie Gaines and special guest Terrell Suggs.

Suggs' organization, Team Sizzle Worldwide, will kickoff the awareness week with a James Bond-inspired themed event, complete with celebrity guests, on Fri., Sept. 11. Team Sizzle Worldwide will also host a luncheon on Sat., Sept. 12 to honor the efforts of WEPSCF and will feature special guest speakers, including national sickle cell spokesperson, Grammy Award winning artist and sickle cell survivor, Tionne "T-Boz" Watkins of TLC and Dr. George Dover, Chief of Pediatrics at Johns Hopkins. On Sun., Sept 13, Team Sizzle Worldwide will host a post-game event for children living with sickle cell and their families after the Ravens' season opener – Baltimore Ravens vs. Kansas City Chiefs. A portion of the proceeds from all Team Sizzle Worldwide ticket sales will benefit the WEPSCF.

The 4th Annual Fundraising Reception on Thurs., Sept. 17, themed "Change is Coming," will honor Delaware United States Senator Thomas Carper and Maryland State Delegate Shirley Nathan-Pulliam for their efforts in promoting community awareness of the devastating effects of sickle cell disease. The WEPSCF will use proceeds from the fundraiser to support sickle cell programs in the Mid-Atlantic region, including Johns Hopkins and Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children. Keynote speaker Jackie Gaines is a nationally recognized leader in the health care industry, as well as an author and motivational speaker.

"We are excited about our ongoing relationship with Terrell Suggs and his organization, Team Sizzle Worldwide, and are thrilled to have such an inspirational leader in Jackie Gaines join us for our event," states Dr. Karen L. Proudford, President of WEPSCF. "Their commitment to the community and to our important cause will bring increased awareness and much needed funding for treatment for those living with sickle cell disease."

4th Annual Fundraising Reception

Date: Thursday, September 17
Location: Hyatt Regency Inner Harbor Hotel
Baltimore, Md.
Time: 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Tickets: \$75 per person – General reception; \$125 per person – VIP reception
Tickets available at www.wepsicklecell.org
Sponsorships: Contact WEPSCF
Web site: www.wepsicklecell.org
Phone: 410.963.5092 (Maryland) or 302.983.8455 (Delaware)



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For more information about the 2009 Team Sizzle Celebrity Weekend from September 11-13, visit www.teamsizzleworldwide.com.

The William E. Proudford Sickle Cell Fund is a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt, non-profit organization. Established in 2005, the fund partners with major institutions in the mid-Atlantic area to provide an ongoing source of funds to support sickle cell awareness, education and research. For more information visit www.wepsicklecellfund.org.

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