

Sickle Cell Awareness Month

Children and young people peer-to-peer mentoring programme London Sickle Cell Improvement Programme



Innovative peer-to-peer mentoring

In 2017, City and Hackney Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), in collaboration with the Sickle Cell Society, introduced a ground breaking peer-to-peer mentoring initiative, helping to deliver health and social care services tailored to children and young people aged 10 to 24 affected by sickle cell disorder (SCD).

Roll out across London

Due to the success of the year-long pilot in City and Hackney CCG, North East London ICB funded the programme across the ICB geography.

As part of the NHS England funding available for the community workstream within the London Sickle Cell Improvement Programme, this innovative peer-to-peer mentoring programme for children and young people will be rolled out across all five London ICBs, in partnership with the Sickle Cell Society.



Sickle Cell Society

Established as an official charity in 1979, the Sickle Cell Society is a prominent UK-based national organisation dedicated to enhancing the wellbeing of individuals affected by SCD. Collaborating with those living with sickle cell conditions, their families, and healthcare professionals, the Society has actively promoted awareness of this condition and campaigned to improve the overall quality of life of those affected.

Benefits

The programme, focusing on self-care, education, emotional support, visits during crises, has yielded significant benefits, reducing A&E visits, inpatient stays, and bed days, ultimately enhancing local resident care. Specifically working with children and young people provides the opportunity to support them in developing personal management skills, and through their transition from paediatric to adult services. The programme principles are rooted in community and workforce collaboration, creating an integrated, holistic system driven by local voices.



Contact

If you want to learn more, or to refer yourself, a relative, or one of your patients to the programme, please get in touch, mentors@sicklecellsociety.org, or visit the Sickle Cell Society website, www.sicklecellsociety.org.

Furthermore, for more details on the London programme and to get involved, visit our website, [here](#).

