

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
PRESS STATEMENT**

1st July 2026

FoSCel Calls for Urgent National Support as Rainy Season Worsens Sickle Cell Crises.

The Focus on Sickle Cell Foundation (FoSCel) is deeply concerned about the increasing number of distress calls and requests for assistance we are receiving from sickle cell warriors and their caregivers across Ghana following the onset of the rainy season.

The cold weather and seasonal changes have contributed to a rise in painful sickle cell crises, infections, and other serious complications, resulting in increased hospital visits and placing many families under severe emotional and financial strain. Many patients require urgent medical attention, yet some continue to face challenges in accessing timely care and essential treatment.

FoSCel is therefore calling on the Government of Ghana, the Ministry of Health, the National Health Insurance Authority, healthcare providers, development partners, corporate organizations, and the general public to take immediate steps to support persons living with sickle cell disease during this critical period. Strengthening access to quality healthcare, essential medicines, public education, and emergency support can help prevent avoidable complications and save lives.

We also urge all sickle cell warriors and their caregivers to take extra precautions by keeping warm, staying well hydrated, taking prescribed medications consistently, avoiding prolonged exposure to cold weather, and seeking immediate medical attention at the first sign of a crisis.

Sickle cell disease remains a major public health challenge in Ghana, and seasonal weather changes continue to increase the vulnerability of those living with the condition. No sickle cell warrior should suffer or lose their life because timely care and support were unavailable.

FoSCel remains committed to working with government agencies, healthcare institutions, the media, civil society organizations, and development partners to improve awareness, strengthen support systems, and advocate for policies that protect the lives and dignity of every person living with sickle cell disease.



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