



CALIFORNIA MUST SUSTAIN SICKLE CELL TREATMENT + SICKLE CELL SURVIVAL

\$15 million for Cayenne Wellness Center's statewide survival services



California is poised to invest \$30M in sickle cell treatment through Centers of Excellence — a necessary step. But that investment is incomplete without survival services that help warriors **reach** the centers, **navigate** them, and remain stable after they leave. That is what Cayenne Wellness Center provides.



7,000

Californians living with
Sickle Cell Disease (SCD)



800+

community members calling
on California to fund CWC



2,300+

services provided
annually



\$15M

requested over 3 years to
sustain survival services statewide

WHY CAYENNE WELLNESS CENTER



TRANSPORTATION



ADVOCACY



MENTAL
HEALTH



HOUSING
SUPPORT



CRISIS
CARE

- **No-cost transportation** — to appointments, emergency care, pharmacy visits, and therapy
- **Patient advocacy** — to ensure immediate and adequate care in emergency rooms and inpatient settings
- **Education** — for caregivers, medical students, clinicians, and families, including youth aging out of children's hospitals
- **Mental Health** — no-cost individual and group sessions provided by culturally competent licensed professionals
- **Community Health Workers** — trained sickle cell warriors provide crisis support, resource navigation, and emergency financial assistance for rent, utilities, childcare, and food



These are not optional services; these are survival services. These supports reduce avoidable suffering, unnecessary hospitalizations, and preventable deaths.

Founded in 2000, **Cayenne Wellness Center** (CWC) is led by sickle cell warriors with unmatched dedication, lived and professional expertise. In 2022, California invested to expand CWC's life-saving services and partnerships. Now, leaders and treatment providers at **Sutter Health**, **Children's Hospital of Los Angeles**, **Loma Linda University Hospital**, **UCLA Health**, and **UC San Francisco** are endorsing 2026 state funding. Today, more than **800 community members** are also calling upon California to act now so that warriors don't "die prematurely."

WHY NOW

FUNDING CLIFF

Federal funding ends August 31, 2026. This money historically supported newborn screening follow-up, sickle cell literacy and education, community-based counseling, care coordination, transportation and other barrier removal.

Just as California is investing \$30M in sickle cell treatment, young warriors could lose access to free transportation and mental health care; adults warriors and caregivers could lose the emergency assistance that helps them take off work, secure childcare, and attend appointments; during a pain crisis, fewer Californians living with SCD will have an advocate fighting for adequate care.



CAYENNE WELLNESS CENTER'S ASK: MAINTAIN AN ECOSYSTEM OF STATEWIDE CARE

Fund clinical treatment through **Centers of Excellence**

+

Fund survival support through **Cayenne Wellness Center**

Include \$15 million over three years for Cayenne Wellness Center in the final 2026–2027 budget



CAYENNE

Wellness Center and Sickle Cell Disease Education & Awareness

Cayenne Wellness Center | cayennewellness.org