PATIENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Objectives

The objectives of the patients support services are:

- To improve the quality of life for patients and their families
- To improve self-sufficiency while providing support that facilitates growth and development

Services

- **Camp New Hope**— A summer camp for kids with Sickle Cell Disease provides a recreational as well as educational outlet. Provides visions of hope by utilizing counselors who have Sickle Cell Disease and are succeeding in life. Other objectives include enhancing coping skills; exposure to cultural entities: spiritual growth and a greater awareness for and appreciation of nature.
- **Big Brother / Big Sister**— Provides strong role models that represents a ray of hope, express love, show concern and provide a listening ear, while encouraging patients to be the best they can be.
- **Education Program**— A comprehensive program of enrichment and tutorial assistance, inspiring patients to reach for greater levels of success.
- **Poster Child Competition**— Provide a vehicle for children 5–10 years of age enhancement of self-esteem while serving as an Ambassador of Sickle Cell.
- **Physician Referral**— Provide avenues for patients to receive necessary medical support and access to the healthcare system.
- **Referral Service**— Provides access for psychosocial and other support entities that improve the quality of life for patients and their families.
- **Hospital Visitation**— Facilitate an atmosphere of concern and love for those patients confined to the hospital.
- **Emergency Financial Assistance**— The provision of limited short-term financial assistance in emergency situations.
- **Employment Assistance**— Promote self-sufficiency through employment placement and maintenance assistance
- **Food Assistance**— Provide food for patients and their families in emergency situations.
- **Clothing Assistance**— Provide clothing for patients and their families in emergency situations.
- **Income Tax Assistance**— Provide assistance with filing federal and state tax returns.