### **RESOURCES**

For more information about SCD and SCT, visit the Sickle Cell Disease Association Of America at

#### www.sicklecelldisease.org

Visit the Isaiah Turner Foundation website to learn more about Isaiah and his impact on student athletes today

### theisaiahturnerfoundation.com

# THE ISAIAH TURNER FOUNDATION

Created by Ziraya Snowden

SICKLE CELL TRAIT

## WHAT IS SICKLE CELL TRAIT?

Sickle Cell Trait(SCT) occurs when a person carries a single gene for Sickle Cell Disease(SCD). SCD & SCT is most commonly found in African Americans and SCT affects 1 in 13 black people born in America. More than 100 million people worldwide have SCT. When an individual has SCT, it means that he/she carries an inherited gene of the disease from one of their parents. SCT is not a disease, and carriers tend to live normal lives without ever experiencing a crisis. In rare cases, conditions such as severe dehydration and intense physical activity can lead to a crisis, which can lead to severe health complications, including sudden death, for individuals with sickle cell trait.



## Isaiah's Story

Isaiah Turner, a 17-year-old rising senior at Lasalle High School in Philadelphia, was known for his amazing football and basketball skills, along with his kindness and sportsmanship. Despite his mother notifying the school about Isaiah's Sickle Cell Trait, staff failed to recognize the signs of a crisis when he collapsed during football practice on September 4, 2020. Tragically, he received no medical attention and passed away.



Isaiah's death highlights the need for education and awareness about SCT in student-athletes. His case is part of a troubling pattern of unnecessary deaths among athletes with SCT. In honor of his memory, his family with the help of attorney Mark W. Tanner launched the "Raising Awareness for Isaiah" campaign to prevent similar tragedies and educate athletic programs on the risks of SCT.

## WARNING SIGNS OF A CRISIS

If you or someone you know with SCT is experiencing these symptoms after high-intensity workouts, seek medical attention immediately.

- Dizziness & Fatigue
- Headache
- Jaundice (yellow skin complexion)
- Body Aches & Cramps
- Shortness of Breath
- Swelling in feet & Hands
- Numbness & Partial Paralysis

