

## **Evelyn Carol Ellis-Washington**



**Evelyn Carol Ellis-Washington** is a mother of a 34-year old **Sickle Cell Warrior**. She has been researching SCD since her son was diagnosed with sickle cell disease in 1996, and began publicly advocating on her job and in the community. Additionally, Evelyn began organizing the DaMarius Washington Sickle Cell Foundation to raise the awareness of this catastrophic illness that were affecting so many families in a five-county range (Bolivar, Coahoma, Quitman, Tallahatchie, and Sunflower). The organization afforded children and families the opportunity to learn that they were not alone, as well as to help educators, social service agents, and health care providers, and the workforce to better understand our family lived experiences on a day to day basis. She also was able to work collaboratively with health care providers, social service agents, the Department of Health, local businesses, churches, and private donors to host several Christmas parties for children living with SCD. Evelyn was also instrumental in hosting Blood and Bone Marrow Drives with MBS in the Sunflower and Tallahatchie County Communities. Her greatest desire is to continue to be a voice for individuals and living with SCD and other health related medical issues that SCD Warriors are faced with due to the SCD.

Evelyn served the state of Mississippi for more than 25-years in many capacities before retiring in 2013.

In addition to serving on the MSCF Board, Evelyn serves on the Project Start Advisory Board, and as a community liaison for the Mississippi Delta Golf Initiative in the West Tallahatchie School District.

Evelyn is a graduate of West Tallahatchie High School, Coahoma Community College, Delta State University, and Walden University (ABD).

When Evelyn is not working to bring about social change, she enjoys spending time with family and My City of Truth Church Family in Clarksdale, MS where she serves as a Sunday School Teacher and Intake Team Member, as well as learning about Mississippi history.

Evelyn is the mother of three adult children.