

STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



**PROCLAMATION
IN OBSERVANCE OF
SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH**

Whereas, Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC) is a category of death in children between the ages of 1 and 18 that remains unexplained after a thorough investigation, including an autopsy; and

Whereas, each year, there are approximately 400 cases of SUDC in the United States - including more than 200 younger children under the age of 5 - who die without any clear cause or explanation; and

Whereas, while less common than Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), which occurs before the first birthday, SUDC is an important health concern deserving of increased public awareness and research; and

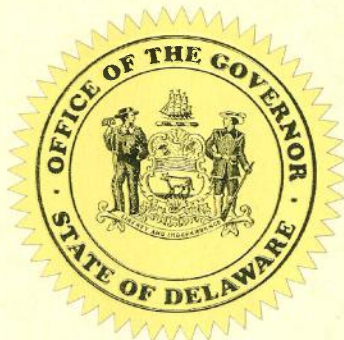
Whereas, SUDC is the 5th leading cause among children ages 1 to 4, and at the present time, there is no way to prevent SUDC as its cause(s) is unknown. It is hoped that future research will identify means by which SUDC can be prevented; and

Whereas, Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood Awareness Month provides an opportunity to honor the memory of the young lives that ended too soon, show encouragement and support for the families and loved ones forever devastated by their loss, and increase public awareness of SUDC and the ongoing search for answers.

*Now, Therefore, We, John Carney, Governor,
and Bethany Hall-Long, Lieutenant Governor,
do hereby declare March 2021, as*

SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Delaware and call on all Delawareans to recognize the dedicated efforts of organizations such as the SUDC Foundation, medical professionals, medicolegal death investigators, and volunteers that are working to better understand the causes of sudden unexplained death, improve the health of infants and children, and provide much needed hope and support for those families grieving the heartbreaking sudden unexplained death of a child.



John C. Carney
John C. Carney
Governor

Bethany A. Hall-Long
Bethany A. Hall-Long
Lieutenant Governor

17-3632
Number