

# Proclamation

by

**Andy Beshear**  
**Governor**

of the

**Commonwealth of Kentucky**



## *To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:*

- 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 of death among children ages 1 to 4, and at the present time, there is no way to prevent SUDC as its cause(s) is unknown, but it is hoped that future research will identify means by which SUDC can be prevented; and
- WHEREAS, We 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; 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, I, ANDY BESHEAR, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim March 2021, as

## **SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH**

in Kentucky.



DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-One and in the 229<sup>th</sup> year of the Commonwealth.

*Andy Beshear*

ANDY BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

*Michael G. Adams*

Michael G. Adams  
Secretary of State