

# The State of Maryland



## Proclamation

*From the Governor of the State of Maryland*

### **SUDC AWARENESS MONTH MARCH 2021**

- 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 between the ages of 1 and 4 - who die without any clear cause or explanation; and*
- WHEREAS,** *SUDC is the 5<sup>th</sup> leading category of death among children ages 1 to 4 in the United States; 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,** *Maryland recognizes the dedicated efforts of organizations, medical professionals, and volunteers to help better understand the cause 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, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim the month of MARCH 2021 as SUDC AWARENESS MONTH and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.**



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,  
this 1st day of March  
Two Thousand and twenty-one

*Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.*  
Governor

*Byrd K. Lathrop*  
Lt. Governor

*John C. Womack*  
Secretary of State