



State of Missouri

Governor's Proclamation

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 between the ages of one and ten, including more than 200 children between the ages of 1 and 4 – 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 category of death among children ages 1 to 4 in the United States; and

WHEREAS, there currently is no way to predict or prevent SUDC as its cause is unknown; and

WHEREAS, 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, 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, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim March 2021, to be

SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 1st day of March, 2021.



Michael L. Parson
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE