



**STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

The love we have for our children is an irreplaceable blessing, as they represent the hope and promise of the future. The experience of losing a child is always devastating to parents and families no matter the cause or circumstances. When a child's death is sudden and defies medical explanation, the loss leaves parents, siblings, and other family members in shock, with countless questions and unimaginable grief.

Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC) is a category of death that occurs in children between the ages of one and 18 that remains unexplained after a thorough medical investigation, including an autopsy. Nationwide, there are approximately 400 cases of SUDC per year and the majority of children affected are between the ages of one and four. Tragically, there is currently no way to anticipate or prevent SUDC, as its causes are unknown, making it a critical public health concern.

During the month of March, a campaign is conducted to raise awareness about SUDC, the need for greater support for parents, siblings, and other family members affected by SUDC, and the vital importance of further research into these deaths and their causes.

At this time, I encourage all Texans, especially parents, to learn more about SUDC and how we can support families facing this devastating loss of a child. By working together to combat this public health issue, we can help secure a better and brighter future for our precious children and the Lone Star State.


Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim March 2021 to be

Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood Awareness Month



in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,
I hereby affix my signature this the
1st day of February, 2021.


Governor of Texas