

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH MARCH 2022

- 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 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. 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 who are working to better understand the causes of SUDC, 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,** *Observing 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 2022 as SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD 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-two

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

Robert K. Luttrell
Lt. Governor

John C. Womack
Secretary of State