

The State of New Hampshire
By His Excellency
Christopher T. Sununu, Governor

A Proclamation

In the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Three

**SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD
AWARENESS MONTH
MARCH 2023**

WHEREAS, Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC) is the sudden and unexpected death of a child over the age of 12 months which remains unexplained after a thorough case investigation is conducted, including performance of a complete autopsy, examination of the death scene, and review of the child's medical history; and

WHEREAS, each year, there are approximately 400 cases of SUDC in the United States between the ages of 1 and 10 - including more than 200 younger children under the age of 4 - who die without any clear cause or explanation. 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 toddlers, and there is currently no way to 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, 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, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim **MARCH 2023** as **SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD MONTH** in the State of New Hampshire, and call this to the attention of all citizens.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the State of New Hampshire to be affixed this 21st day of February, 2023.



Christopher T. Sununu

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor