



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH

2022

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC) is the sudden and unexpected death of a child between the ages of 1 and 18 that remains unexplained after a thorough case investigation, including 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 – including more than 200 younger 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 there is no way to predict or prevent SUDC as its cause(s) is unknown; future research will hopefully identify means by which SUDC can be prevented; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina recognizes 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, 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 devastated by their loss, and increase public awareness of SUDC and the ongoing search for answers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim March, 2022, as “**SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH**” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.





Roy Cooper
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-third day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-two and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-sixth.