

Proclaim September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

Help to have NJ officially recognize September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and bring awareness of this devastating disease to the next level.

Attached is a sample letter that you can edit and print/ send or copy and paste and send electronically.

Email the governor here:

<https://nj.gov/governor/contact/>

Please use "Proclaim September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month" as the Subject of your e-mail.

Or mail your letters here to Governor Murphy's attention here:
225 W State Street, Trenton NJ 08608

Use this as your subject for email if for email:

Proclaim September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

Dear Governor Murphy

As a person who cares deeply about childhood cancer, I am actively participating in an initiative with a friend's pediatric cancer charity, the WITH Grace Initiative. My friend, Grace Eline, represented this important cause at the 2019 State of The Union with the President. She also spoke with you in April 2019 at Rutgers Cancer Institute. I am contacting you to ask for your support in issuing an official proclamation declaring September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Childhood cancer impacts children in every state of the country and remains the #1 cause of disease-related death in the U.S. I hope that we can work together to add our state to the growing list of governors who have already committed to reaching this goal again in 2020. Below in this letter is suggested proclamation language.

As a constituent this is a personal issue for me as my friend had a brain tumor at 9 years old. She continues to fight for her friends that are still in treatment and I hope you will feel the sense of urgency that I feel for childhood cancer to be a state priority. Please help me raise awareness and honor children and families impacted by childhood cancer by issuing this proclamation. Thank you so much for your consideration of this request....because kids can't fight cancer alone!

Proclamation:

Whereas, childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children, and;

Whereas, 1 in 285 children in the United States will be diagnosed by their 20th birthday, and;

Whereas, 43 children per day or 15,780 children are diagnosed with cancer annually in the U.S., and;

Whereas, there are approximately 40,000 children on active treatment at any given time, and;

Whereas, the average age of diagnosis is 6 years old, compared to 66 years for adults' cancer diagnosis, and;

Whereas, 80% of childhood cancer patients are diagnosed late and with metastatic disease, and;

Whereas, on average there's been a 0.6 percent increase in incidence per year since the mid 1970's resulting in an overall incidence increase of 24 percent over the last 40 years, and;

Whereas, two-thirds of childhood cancer patients will have chronic health conditions as a result of their treatment toxicity, with one quarter being classified as severe to life-threatening, and;

Whereas, approximately one half of childhood cancer families rate the associated financial toxicity due to out-of-pocket expenses as considerable to severe, and;

Whereas, in the last 20 years only four new drugs have been approved by the FDA to specifically treat childhood cancer, and;

Whereas, the National Cancer Institute recognizes the unique research needs of childhood cancer and the associated need for increased funding to carry this out;

Whereas, hundreds of non-profit organizations at the local and national level including the American Childhood Cancer Organization are helping children with cancer and their families cope through educational, emotional and financial support, and;

Whereas, researchers and healthcare professionals work diligently dedicating their expertise to treat and cure children with cancer, and;

Whereas, too many children are affected by this deadly disease and more must be done to raise awareness and find a cure.

Now therefore, I, (name of elected official), Governor of (state), do hereby proclaim September 2020 as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in (city/state).

I encourage all Americans to observe Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and support this cause that so deeply impacts families in every community across our country.

Again, thank you so much for your consideration of this request...because kids can't fight cancer alone!

Best regards,

Your name with address below it.