
From: Kristen Dillon
Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2023 10:10 AM
To: Cohen, Paul
Subject: [External] Shine A Light on SUDC for Junie and others
Attachments: cidA2047A69-2D27-46B2-8804-5BD5CC891FAB.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

You don't often get email from drkristendillon@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr Cohen,

On the night of December 29th, 2022, my 2.5 year-old, Juniper, "Junie," called me back into her room before bed to give me one more kiss and hug. I am so grateful that she did, as that would be the last time I held my child. The next morning, I woke to find my beautiful, healthy, vibrant daughter had died in her sleep. In that horrible moment, my world shattered. Along with a daughter, a sister, a granddaughter, and a little friend, my family and I lost our sense of safety in this world, our hopes, our dreams, and our future. My world has been dark since, and I don't now and may never comprehend how this happened. It was then that I first learned about Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC).

March is SUDC Awareness Month, and we are fortunate that a proclamation has been signed by Governor Healey to honor this. I am writing to ask you to consider "Shining a Light" on SUDC by lighting up a landmark in Chelmsford in blue and yellow this month. As a way to honor Junie and the other children lost to SUDC, we want to promote awareness and advocate for our children. Attached please find a letter that we originally drafted to the Mayor and Governor documenting our cause and providing further information on SUDC and how you can help to "Shine a Light." I spoke with the Governors office yesterday and there's prospect that the State House will be lit. I also reached out to the First Parish about their clock and was informed that the town owns it. I know it may not be feasible to do so with such short notice, but I hoped we might be able to "shine a light" in some way.

Junie was silly, kind, sassy, and loved her family and friends fiercely. She was born and raised in Chelmsford and enjoyed all that our town has to offer. I will spend my life honoring Junie, raising awareness, and keeping her memory alive. I hope you will consider helping me.

Respectfully yours,
Kristen Dillon
A Resident of Chelmsford and Devoted Mother of Junie



JUNIPER ANN DILLON

04/02/2020-

12/30/2022

101 Eisenhower Parkway
Suite 300
Roseland, NJ 07068



Ph: 973.795.1257
Fax: 973.559.6191
info@sudc.org

March is Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC) Awareness Month, recognized by 48 U.S. states including Massachusetts and Governor Healy. The SUDC Foundation is the only organization nationwide that raises SUDC Awareness, funds research, and offers free, confidential support for those impacted by this tragic occurrence. (www.sudc.org)

Kristen Dillon, a Massachusetts resident and mother who lost her Junie from sudden and unexplained causes. Kristen advocates for SUDC awareness and strives to find an answer to why her daughter and other children have tragically passed.

To help raise awareness and honor those children who have been lost, we are respectfully seeking your assistance in illuminating Boston's City Hall during the month of March in the official colors of the SUDC Foundation: blue and yellow (Blue: RGB (0, 107, 182) & Yellow: RGB (252, 179, 54)).

We understand that this a short notice request, and we are flexible with any day or time frame in March 2023.

SUDC is a devastating occurrence that affects families worldwide. 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. In the United States, approximately 450 children between the ages of 1 and 18 are affected by SUDC every year, and is the fifth leading category of death in children between the ages of 1 and 4.

One child gone too soon, is one too many, regardless of the numbers.

Currently, there is no way to predict or prevent SUDC, and we hope that future research will lead to the identification of ways to predict and prevent it.

Your support would be greatly appreciated in our community, as it will help us honor the children we have lost, help families affected by SUDC feel seen and supported, and bring attention to this important cause by raising awareness.

Thank you for considering our request and helping us live in a world free of SUDC.

In gratitude

Tina Yun Lee
(she/her/hers)
Executive Director

Kristen Dillon, PsyD, ABPP
Mother of Junie