



## STATE *of* MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: One in 15 children in Minnesota will experience the death of a parent or sibling by age 18; and
- WHEREAS: In addition to feelings of grief, many children experience feelings of loneliness and fear, leading to challenges in managing their grief; and
- WHEREAS: Many adults and other children erroneously believe that grieving children are resilient enough that they get over their grief, so much so that children have often been called the "forgotten mourners"; and
- WHEREAS: It often takes children much longer to process their grief and the amount of inner turmoil, invisible to most, can be intense; and
- WHEREAS: Many classroom teachers report that they often witness a negative impact on academic performance when a student loses a parent or guardian; and
- WHEREAS: Parents, educators, childcare practitioners, and community leaders all play a role in acknowledging and supporting childhood grief; and
- WHEREAS: Grieving children can benefit from having individual support while also participating in a family-focused model of care that helps families heal together; and
- WHEREAS: The third Thursday in November is designated as Children's Grief Awareness Day, a day to raise awareness and educate others about childhood grief and the importance of providing family-focused support.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 16, 2023 as:

## CHILDREN'S GRIEF AWARENESS DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



*Steve Pimm*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 16<sup>th</sup> day of November.

*Tim Walz*  
GOVERNOR