

# PROCLAMATION

**Whereas**, the mission of the National Healthy Start Association (NHSA) is to be our nation's voice in providing leadership and advocacy for health equity, services and interventions that improve birth outcomes and family well-being; and

**Whereas**, the NHSA is a recognized leader in and advocate for reducing infant mortality and perinatal disparities and the hub for maternal and child health programs and services; and

**Whereas**, the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) in the United States of America is 5.547 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2022; and

**Whereas**, the African American IMR is 2.3 times of that of non-Hispanic whites; and

**Whereas**, while the USA's IMR is below the world average of 26.693, it is above our neighbors like Cuba (4.188) and Canada (4.055); and

**Whereas**, NHSA's ***Celebrate Day 366...Every Baby Deserves a Chance Infant Mortality Awareness Campaign*** supports and inspires people from around the nation to take action in support of the Healthy People 2030 goal to improve the health and well-being of women, infants, children and families; and

**Whereas**, NHSA has promoted the month of September as **National Infant Mortality Awareness Month** since 2007 to bring awareness to the ***Campaign Day 366...Every Baby Deserves a Chance Infant Mortality Awareness Campaign***; and

**Whereas**, 2022 is the 15<sup>th</sup> year of this Campaign and Awareness Month;

**Therefore**, on this **1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2022**, the National Healthy Start Association **does hereby proclaim September as National Infant Mortality Awareness Month**, in furtherance of NHSA's role as a leader in reducing infant mortality and improving birth outcomes in the USA.



Rev. Tommy L. Rodgers  
President, National Healthy Start Association

