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 15th year of this Campaign and Awareness Month;

Therefore, on this 1st 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