

The State of New Hampshire
By His Excellency
Christopher T. Sununu, Governor

A Proclamation

In the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Three

PEDIATRIC FEEDING DISORDER AWARENESS MONTH
MAY 2023

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention identify nutrition during the first 1,000 days of life as a critical factor to early brain growth, development of the central nervous system, and lifelong mental health; and

WHEREAS, the Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition published a field-leading consensus paper defining pediatric feeding disorder (PFD) as impaired oral intake that is not age-appropriate and is associated with medical, nutritional, feeding skill, and/or psychosocial dysfunction; and

WHEREAS, according to a national prevalence study published in the Journal of Pediatrics, conservative evaluations estimate that more than 1 in 37 children under the age of 5 and more than 1 in 5 children with a chronic disease experience severe PFD in the United States annually; and

WHEREAS, every bite of food for children with PFD can be painful, scary, or simply impossible to swallow, potentially impeding nutrition, development, growth, and overall well-being; and

WHEREAS, families navigating pediatric feeding disorder often feel isolated and overwhelmed, struggling to overcome the medical, emotional, financial, educational, and social issues related to PFD; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness for pediatric feeding disorders will help create a world in which children with PFD will thrive by accelerating identification, igniting research, and promoting collaborative care and support for children and families;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim **MAY 2023** as **PEDIATRIC FEEDING DISORDER AWARENESS MONTH** in the State of New Hampshire and call this to the attention of all citizens.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the State of New Hampshire to be affixed this 24th day of April, 2023.



Christopher T. Sununu

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor