In 2019, a highly-contagious novel coronavirus (COVID-19) was identified and soon became a deadly pandemic, forcing communities around the world into various states of lock-down in order to control the spread of the disease. As of May 25, 2020, there were over 345,000 deaths worldwide, with close to 100,000 of those deaths in the United States.

Because people are isolated from each other in order to slow the spread of COVID-19 and prevent it from transmitting to the most vulnerable populations, those who are suffering from the disease are doing so in isolation, while those who are dying are often separated from their loved ones.

Gatherings of large groups of people are discouraged so funerals for those who have died of COVID-19 are small or postponed, as are funerals for those who have died of other causes.

This series of C-19 signs was created in order to bring visibility to the victims of COVID-19 (both those who died and survived) so that communities can bear witness to the widespread effects of the pandemic and collectively grieve our losses.

It is brought to you by the local history community because all history is local. Long after the pandemic has subsided your local history organizations will continue to preserve this vital history.

How to Use C-19 Signs

- Display appropriate C-19 sign on a window or door to signify the following:
  
  -- Yellow C-19: A person in the household has died of COVID-19.
  
  -- Blue C-19: A person in the household has survived COVID-19.
  
  -- Orange C-19: A family member or friend who does not live in the household has died of COVID-19.
  
  -- Green C-19: A family member or friend who does not live in the household has survived COVID-19.
  
- If more than one person has died from or survived COVID-19, add "x" plus the number after C-19 using the appropriate color.

- If you do not have access to a color printer, make copies of the uncolored C-19 and hand-color as appropriate.

- If you do not have access to a printer, create your own C-19s out of colored paper or write C-19s on white paper in the appropriate colors to display on your window or door.
Yellow C-19: A person in the household has died of COVID-19.
Blue C-19: A person in the household has survived COVID-19.
Orange C-19: A family member or friend who does not live in the household has died of COVID-19.
Green C-19: A family member or friend who does not live in the household has survived COVID-19.
Make copies and color as needed.