

WHEREAS; according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in 2020, the latest year for which data is available, more than 11,500 new cases of cervical cancer were reported, including 160 in Wisconsin, and more than 4,000 people died from the disease; and

WHEREAS; marked by cancer forming in the cervix, cervical cancer was formerly one of the leading causes of cancer death for women in the United States, but increases in vaccination rates and increased awareness of the necessity of regular screenings have made the disease highly preventable and treatable; and

WHEREAS; the human papillomavirus (HPV) has been identified as the main cause of cervical cancer, and the HPV vaccine, along with regular screenings and Pap tests, can be effective tools to prevent the disease or detect it early on; and

WHEREAS; while cervical cancer can affect anyone with a cervix, the disease disproportionately affects underserved communities that too often lack access to healthcare services and education on preventative healthcare options; and

WHEREAS; cervical cancer can be treated, especially if caught early, however, treatment is often challenging, frequently requiring surgery, chemotherapy, or radiation; and

WHEREAS; committed to reducing barriers to healthcare access, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services runs programs, including the Wisconsin Well Woman Program, designed to provide cervical health screenings, and the Vaccines for Children Program, designed to provide eligible children with the vaccine access, including the HPV vaccine; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin honors those whose lives have been affected by cervical cancer and joins survivors, advocates, and organizations across the state and country in working to raise awareness of cervical cancer and the importance of cervical health, reduce the stigma that surrounds seeking cervical health services, and expand access to preventative tools, education, and treatment;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim January 2024 as

CERVICAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 17th day of November 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State