

WHEREAS; glaucoma is a general term referring to a collection of eye disorders that cause damage to the optic nerve due to a buildup of fluid putting excess pressure on one's eye; and

WHEREAS; there are several different types of glaucoma, including open-angle glaucoma, angle-closure glaucoma, normal-tension glaucoma, and congenital glaucoma, according to the National Eye Institute; and

WHEREAS; glaucoma can develop at any age, but it is most common in people over the age of 60, as well as in people with certain medical conditions, Black, Asian, or Hispanic individuals, and people with a family history of the condition; and

WHEREAS; signs and symptoms of glaucoma vary by type and stage but often entail patchy or blurred vision, severe eye pain, headaches, eye discoloration, or changes in peripheral vision; and

WHEREAS; often, early signs of glaucoma go unnoticed by affected individuals, which is why screening for glaucoma—in the form of regular comprehensive eye exams—is key to preventing the condition and detecting it in its early stages; and

WHEREAS; while optic nerve damage and vision loss from glaucoma are irreversible, treatments, including eyedrops, laser treatments, and surgeries, can lower eye pressure, alleviate symptoms, halt the progression of damage to the optic nerve, and prevent further vision loss and blindness, especially if treated early; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin encourages all Wisconsinites to become familiar with their family's eye health history and take the necessary steps to prevent glaucoma and maintain their eye health;

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

GLAUCOMA 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