STATE of WISCONSIN



Proclamation

WHEREAS; congenital heart disease (CHD) is a general term that refers to a wide range of congenital disorders affecting the heart; and

WHEREAS; according to the Children's Heart Foundation, CHD is the most prevalent congenital disorder in the United States, affecting nearly one in every 110 births, and is the leading congenital disorder-related cause of death; and

WHEREAS; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that approximately 40,000 babies are born with CHD in the United States each year, and while there is no known cure, the majority of individuals born with non-critical CHD now live past the age of 18 as a result of advancements in science and medicine; and

WHEREAS; even with these advancements, CHD is a lifelong disease, and affected individuals often face health risks that require additional surgeries and medical interventions beyond childhood; and

WHEREAS; additionally, many adults with CHD are not receiving the recommended care they need due to barriers such as a lack of health education, adequate insurance, or access to specialized care, underscoring the importance of supporting vital research and expanding access to care to ensure equitable health outcomes for all; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins individuals with CHD, their families, and advocates across the state in raising awareness of CHD in order to achieve timely diagnoses and effective treatments for all those affected by the condition throughout the continuum of their lives;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim February 7 – 14, 2025, as

CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE AWARENESS WEEK

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 31st day of January 2025.

WONY EVERS GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI Secretary of State