WHEREAS; for more than a century, the American Red Cross has played a critical role in helping Wisconsinites prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies; and

WHEREAS; American Red Cross volunteers and staff responded to numerous disasters across Wisconsin last year, assisting individuals affected by fires, floods, tornadoes, and other disasters, distributing thousands of relief items, safely serving thousands of meals and snacks, and providing shelter and mental health support to families across the state; and

WHEREAS; from the installation of free smoke alarms in people's homes to offering training in CPR, the use of automated external defibrillators, First Aid, swim safety, lifeguarding, and babysitting, thousands of Wisconsinites are now better prepared to help their neighbors during a crisis or prevent and prepare for disasters thanks to lifesaving classes and educational programming offered by the American Red Cross; and

WHEREAS; last year, the American Red Cross Hero Care Network provided support to service members and their families before, during, and after deployment through emergency communication services, financial assistance programs, reintegration services, and veteran programs; and

WHEREAS; Red Cross Biomedical Services also served hospitals across Wisconsin throughout the year, and countless lives were saved because of blood donations collected at statewide blood drives; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the American Red Cross and dedicated partners across the state and nation in working to ensure that all Wisconsinites are prepared for disasters and emergencies and to help their fellow neighbors in times of need;

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

## **AMERICAN RED CROSS 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 19th day of February 2024.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State