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 839 disasters across Wisconsin last year, assisting nearly 3,900 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; in 2024, the American Red Cross shared preparedness resources and lessons with approximately 3,500 students and partners to prevent and prepare for disasters through virtual inclass education programs, which included the safe installation of 3,912 free smoke alarms in people's homes and providing virtual disaster education to numerous first through third graders; and

WHEREAS; more than 49,000 Wisconsinites are now better prepared to help their neighbors during a crisis because they have been trained in CPR, the use of automated external defibrillators, First Aid, swim safety, lifeguarding, and babysitting thanks to lifesaving classes and educational programming offered by the American Red Cross; and

WHEREAS; in 2024, 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; countless lives across the state were also saved in 2024 due to 270,445 units of blood collected at 6,734 blood drives; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the American Red Cross in partnership with the United States Department of Homeland Security and Wisconsin Emergency Management, 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 2025 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 14th day of March 2025.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State