

WHEREAS; every year, School Social Work Week highlights the central role that school social workers play in the lives of students and families across Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; school social workers are skilled in identifying and providing services to students who are facing circumstances and obstacles that can hinder learning and growth, such as poverty, disability, discrimination, abuse, addiction, mental health, bullying, divorce, or grief and loss; and

WHEREAS; according to the Health Resources and Services Administration's National Survey of Children's Health, in 2023, more than 5.3 million youth ages 12 to 17 had a current, diagnosed mental or behavioral health condition, underscoring the need for school-based social work programs that meet the emotional, physical, and environmental needs of students; and

WHEREAS; as more students are struggling with mental and behavioral health disorders, school social workers remain vital to the success of Wisconsin's students, as school mental health programs can be critical to the early identification of mental health problems and the provision of appropriate services when needed; and

WHEREAS; during the Year of the Kid, the state of Wisconsin remains committed to advancing and supporting innovative initiatives to increase vital mental and behavioral health services in Wisconsin schools, including measures to hire more pupil service professionals like social workers, as well as supporting the overall, long-term success of the social work industry; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in thanking school social workers across the state for the important work they do to promote the academic, social, emotional, and personal success of Wisconsin's students so they can be their best and fullest selves both in and outside the classroom;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim March 2 through 8 2025 as

## **SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK 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 14th day of February 2025.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State