WHEREAS; child abuse and neglect are pervasive—yet preventable—issues affecting communities across Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; caregivers, families, communities, and government agencies have an obligation to work together to create safe, stable, and nurturing environments for all kids; and

WHEREAS; research demonstrates that building family-protective factors, including enhancing parenting knowledge with information on child development, aiding in the social and emotional competence of kids, encouraging social connections, fostering parental resilience, and providing concrete support in times of need, can promote the optimal development of kids, strengthen families, and reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS; child maltreatment can be prevented by ensuring families are supported in building these protective factors through strengths-based policies, programming, and public awareness; and

WHEREAS; the pinwheel has come to serve as a symbol of child abuse prevention, representing the safe and happy childhoods that all kids deserve; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins dedicated agencies, advocates, and organizations across the state in reaffirming its commitment to making a difference in the lives of kids across the state throughout 2025 the Year of the Kid and every year by working to strengthen families and the communities in which they live;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim April 2025 as

## **FAMILY STRENGTHENING MONTH**

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

	ave hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 28th day of March
TONY EVERS, Governor	
By the Governor:	
SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary	of State