

WHEREAS; forgiveness, empathy, compassion, and respect are core Wisconsin values, and all Wisconsinites deserve to be treated with dignity and respect; and

WHEREAS; formerly incarcerated individuals often face difficulties when re-entering society, such as finding adequate employment, housing, and education, as well as volunteer opportunities and pathways to pay off debt arising from conviction and incarceration, which are all factors that result in lost potential, contribute to recidivism, and affect public safety; and

WHEREAS; investing in rehabilitation for currently and formerly incarcerated individuals who have worked to make amends and positive contributions in their communities helps reduce crime, prevent violence, and keep kids, families, and communities safe by ensuring folks have the tools, resources, and opportunities to be successful, while helping to bolster Wisconsin's economy and workforce; and

WHEREAS; the safe and successful reentry of justice-involved individuals while balancing the protection and support of victims and survivors is a priority for the state; and

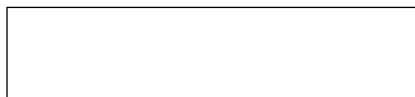
WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins justice-involved individuals, advocates, and dedicated organizations across the state in reaffirming its commitment to comprehensive and meaningful criminal justice reform to improve community safety, reduce recidivism, and implement evidence-based practices to expand access to treatment and workforce training, and in encouraging individuals, employers, congregations, and communities to practice Wisconsin's values and extend second chances;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim April 2026 as

## **SECOND CHANCE 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 23rd day of March 2026.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State