

# STATE of WISCONSIN



## OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS*; the first years of a child's life are the period of the most rapid brain development, laying the foundation for future learning, health, well-being, growth, and overall success; and

*WHEREAS*; celebrated nationwide since 1971, Week of the Young Child presents an opportunity to acknowledge the importance of early care and education during this critical time in a child's life; and

*WHEREAS*; equitable access to high-quality early care and education is essential to children's long-term social and emotional development, helping to mitigate the effects of poverty, detect and remediate delays, identify and prevent child neglect, and facilitate overall positive educational outcomes; and

*WHEREAS*; high-quality early childhood education depends on the knowledge and expertise of early childhood educators who ensure kids have the early experiences they need to be better prepared for school and more likely to succeed later in life; and

*WHEREAS*; early childhood educators deserve a family-sustaining wage that is proportionate to the required education and skills they bring to their complex and valuable work, and working families deserve a strong regulatory structure to provide peace of mind that their children are safe in their early care and education settings; and

*WHEREAS*; the economic and financial security of working families depends on access to high-quality child care programs staffed by skilled and fairly compensated early educators and employers, business owners, and Wisconsin's economic growth depends on the ability of families to find and maintain access to quality, affordable child care so they can be reliable and effective employees, which is why the state will continue to support and advance meaningful efforts to bolster the long-term strength of this valuable industry; and

*WHEREAS*; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins state leaders, agencies, dedicated organizations, and community partners in affirming its commitment to investing in the success of the state's early childhood systems and providing the strongest possible start for the state's youngest children through high-quality early learning opportunities;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim April 6 – 12, 2024, as

## WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

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 29th day  
of March 2024.

*Tony Evers*  
TONY EVERS  
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

*Sarah Godlewski*  
SARAH GODLEWSKI  
Secretary of State