

WHEREAS; the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention identify nutrition during the first two years of life as a critical factor in early brain growth, development of the central nervous system, and lifelong health; and

WHEREAS; in 2019, the Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition published a field-leading consensus paper defining pediatric feeding disorder (PFD) as impaired oral intake that is not age-appropriate and is associated with medical, nutritional, feeding skill, and/or psychosocial dysfunction; and

WHEREAS; conservative estimates suggest that more than one in 37 children under the age of five are affected by PFD, and the disorder is prevalent in kids with chronic diseases and other medical conditions; and

WHEREAS; every bite of food for kids experiencing PFD can be painful, scary, or simply impossible to swallow, potentially impeding nutrition, development, growth, and overall well-being; and

WHEREAS; families navigating PFD often feel isolated and overwhelmed and struggle to overcome the medical, emotional, financial, educational, and social issues related to the disorder; and

WHEREAS; all Wisconsinites are encouraged to learn more about PFD and support efforts to improve the system of care through advocacy, education, support, and research; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins kids and families living with PFD across the state in raising awareness of the disorder and working towards a world in which affected families are properly supported and kids with PFD can thrive;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim May 2024 as

## **PEDIATRIC FEEDING DISORDER AWARENESS 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 19th day of April 2024.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State