

# STATE of WISCONSIN



## OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS*; according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), lupus is an acute and chronic autoimmune disease that can cause inflammation, tissue damage, and pain throughout the body; and

*WHEREAS*; while the immune system is typically the body's defense against infections, for individuals with lupus, the immune system attacks healthy tissue, resulting in damage to the skin, lungs, heart, kidneys, brain, and any other body parts; and

*WHEREAS*; the severity and symptoms of lupus vary from person to person, with symptoms ranging from arthritis and rashes to seizures, heart attacks, miscarriages, and organ failure; and

*WHEREAS*; according to the Lupus Foundation of America, approximately 1.5 million Americans, including thousands of Wisconsinites, have a form of lupus; and

*WHEREAS*; although lupus can affect anyone, lupus most commonly affects women of reproductive age and women of color, particularly Black women, who disproportionately experience more rapid progression and worse outcomes compared to their white counterparts; and

*WHEREAS*; due to its wide range of symptoms and similarities to other diseases, lupus can be difficult to diagnose, and affected individuals may sometimes wait years before receiving an accurate diagnosis; and

*WHEREAS*; today, the state of Wisconsin joins affected individuals and their families, medical professionals, and dedicated advocates and organizations across the state and country in raising awareness of lupus and working towards better diagnoses, more advanced treatments, and a cure;

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

## LUPUS 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 28th day  
of April 2025.

*Tony Evers*  
TONY EVERS  
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

*Sarah Godlewski*  
SARAH GODLEWSKI  
Secretary of State