

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin recognizes that what's best for kids is what's best for the state, and the vision of the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) is that all kids and youth are safe and loved members of thriving families and communities; and

WHEREAS; families come in all shapes and sizes, and foster families provide kids who are unable to remain in their homes with security and stability, a safe, temporary living environment, and the opportunity for lifelong connection; and

WHEREAS; the majority of kids in foster care in Wisconsin are in family settings within their communities, with more than 2,400 kids placed with relatives; and

WHEREAS; kids do best when they can be with those they already know and love, and the state of Wisconsin recognizes the importance of like-kin as relatives to kids, so those individuals can receive the support needed to foster when necessary; and

WHEREAS; all Wisconsinites have a responsibility to create communities where every kid can grow up safely and to support the best care and environment possible when kids cannot safely remain in their own homes; and

WHEREAS; each day, thousands of professionals in public, private, and Tribal agencies work together to support Wisconsin's kids and families with the resources, support, and warmth they both need and deserve; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins DCF and all those involved with foster care in recognizing their loyal and steadfast devotion to the safety, stability, and well-being of Wisconsin's kids and families;

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

FOSTER CARE 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 1st day of May 2026.

[Signature Box]

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

[Signature Box]

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State