

WHEREAS; 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, healthcare 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 2026 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 23rd day of April 2026.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State