

WHEREAS; the American Academy of Pediatrics identifies nutrition during the first two years of life as a critical factor in early brain growth, central nervous system development, 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; estimates suggest that more than one in 37 children under the age of five are affected by PFD, and the disorder is even more prevalent in kids with chronic diseases and other medical conditions; and

WHEREAS; according to Cleveland Clinic, avoidant/restrictive food intake disorder (ARFID) is a condition that causes an individual to limit the amount and type of food they eat and can cause serious health problems; and

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

WHEREAS; families navigating PFD and ARFID often feel isolated, 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 ARFID 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 and ARFID across the state in raising awareness of the disorders and working towards a world in which affected families are properly supported and kids with PFD and ARFID can thrive;

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

PFD & ARFID 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