

WHEREAS; the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities make remarkable economic, political, and social contributions to the state and the country and are a fundamental part of Wisconsin’s shared history, culture, and identity; and

WHEREAS; mental health conditions are real and prevalent in the lives of Wisconsinites of every age and every background across the state, and the state of mental health within Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities must be addressed; and

WHEREAS; according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, members of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities use mental health services and treatments for any mental illness at the lowest rates compared to other racial and ethnic populations; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin recognizes that there are many factors that can impact an individual’s mental health and their ability to access care—including, but not limited to, discrimination and bias based on race, ethnicity, gender identity, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, religion, disability status, geographic location, language, and nation of origin—and that these factors can intersect and compound one another, preventing individuals from seeking or getting the care and treatment that they need to be well; and

WHEREAS; the state recognizes the importance of promoting practices that support behavioral and mental health equity, which means ensuring that high-quality and culturally relevant care and services are accessible to every Wisconsinite; and

WHEREAS; on this day, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms its commitment to promoting public awareness of mental health challenges of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities, improving access to mental health treatment and services, and eliminating the stigma and discrimination that too often prevents individuals from seeking much-needed mental health support;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim May 10 2024 as

## **AAPI MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY**

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 26th day of April 2024.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State