

WHEREAS; first recognized in 1984, Deafblind Awareness Week was established to commemorate deafblind author and educator Helen Keller; and

WHEREAS; deafblindness is a unique information-gathering disability that incorporates the dual-sensory loss of both sight and hearing and impacts the lives of children and adults, along with their families, in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; providing access to appropriate services and accommodations, including using interveners, Support Service Providers (SSPs), and interpreters who serve as a bridge to communication, allows deafblind Wisconsinites the opportunity for full participation in all aspects of society; and

WHEREAS; in addition to the valuable contributions of non-profit deafblind organizations across the state, the Wisconsin Deafblind Technical Assistance Project, which is operated by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, is a vital resource for deafblind Wisconsinites from birth through high school and is an effective partner in helping to address the unique needs of Wisconsin's deafblind children; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin joins dedicated individuals and organizations across the state in encouraging an increased awareness of the abilities and potential of Wisconsinites who are deafblind and recognizing Helen Keller as a guiding example of perseverance, hope, courage, determination, and achievement for all who are deafblind;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim June 24 through 30 2024 as

DEAFBLIND AWARENESS WEEK

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 31st day of May 2024.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State