

STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; community health centers across the United States—including the 17 community health centers in Wisconsin that receive federal community health center grants—have provided underserved communities with high-quality, affordable, and comprehensive primary and preventive healthcare for decades; and

WHEREAS; according to the Health Resources and Services Administration, in 2021, more than 30 million people received care from a community health center, and health centers serve roughly one in three people living in poverty and one in five rural residents; and

WHEREAS; community health centers play a critical role in filling gaps in traditional care networks and are constantly developing new ways to integrate services beyond primary care—including oral health, behavioral health, pharmacy services, treatment for substance use disorders, school-based care, and services for special populations, such as agricultural workers, individuals experiencing homelessness, and veterans—to meet the needs and challenges of their communities; and

WHEREAS; the community health center model continues to prove effective in helping folks overcome barriers to healthcare access—such as geography, income, and insurance status—and reduces overall costs of care by helping to manage patients' chronic conditions and keep them out of costlier healthcare settings; and

WHEREAS; National Health Center Week provides the opportunity to celebrate the nation's health center organizations, service delivery sites, and the dedicated staff, board members, and patients who are responsible for their continued growth and success; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins the Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association in celebrating community health centers and their many contributions that help shape the past, present, and future of the healthcare system;


NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim August 6 – 12, 2023, as

NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER 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 7th day of August 2023.


TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor


SARAH GODLEWSKI
Secretary of State