

WHEREAS; according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, over 49,000 Americans lost their lives to suicide in 2022, including more than 900 Wisconsinites; and

WHEREAS; in 2022, suicide was among the top nine leading causes of death for people aged ten to 64, as well as the second leading cause of death among individuals aged 10 to 14 and 25 to 34 nationwide; and

WHEREAS; while anyone, regardless of background or identity, can be at risk for suicide, some groups have higher suicide rates than others, such as veterans, those who live in rural areas, Indigenous individuals, and members of the LGBTQ community, and prevention must be a public health priority; and

WHEREAS; suicide prevention requires collaboration and compassion from friends, families, neighbors, coworkers, businesses, government agencies, and community organizations to implement strategies for early intervention, treatment, prevention, and postvention; and

WHEREAS; this month and throughout the year, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms its commitment to increasing access to mental healthcare and services, addressing disparities in access to quality, affordable mental health and healthcare services among underrepresented groups, supporting research into culturally relevant and evidence-based mental healthcare and services, reducing stigma, implementing best practices regarding suicide prevention in healthcare systems and programs, improving the investigation and reporting of suicide deaths, and spreading awareness of suicide and suicide prevention; and

WHEREAS; suicide and suicide attempts have far-reaching effects on loved ones, friends, family, coworkers, and entire communities, and all Wisconsinites are reminded that everyone can help prevent suicide by raising awareness, promoting healthy connections, supporting crisis services, and creating a safer, healthier world for all; and

WHEREAS; the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline provides free and confidential services to people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for those struggling or their loved ones, and best practices for professionals and is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week by calling or texting 9-8-8 or visiting [988lifeline.org](https://988lifeline.org);

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

## **SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH**

and September 8 – 14 2024 as

## **SUICIDE PREVENTION 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 23rd day of August 2024.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State