

WHEREAS; according to Wisconsin’s Department of Health Services (DHS), more than 900 Wisconsinites lost their lives to suicide in 2024, with over 20 percent having had a history of a previous suicide attempt; and
WHEREAS; in 2024, suicide was the 10th leading cause of death overall in the United States, and 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
WHEREAS; suicide prevention must be a public health priority, which is why it is imperative to increase access to quality, affordable mental healthcare and healthcare services, address disparities in access to quality, affordable mental health and healthcare services among underrepresented groups, support research into culturally relevant and evidence-based mental healthcare and services, reduce stigma, implement best practices regarding suicide prevention in healthcare systems and programs, improve the investigation and reporting of suicide deaths, and spread awareness of suicide and suicide prevention; 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; 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, learning the warning signs of suicide, 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 it is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week by calling or texting 9-8-8 or visiting 988lifeline.org;

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

SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH
and September 6 through 12, 2026, 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 26th day of August 2026.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State