

WHEREAS; it is widely agreed upon that nutrition status is a reliable indicator of overall health and that sufficient nutrition is an effective tool to keep people healthy, reduce costs associated with healthcare, and improve quality of life; and

WHEREAS; malnutrition occurs when an individual's nutritional needs are unmet or imbalanced and can cause challenges that impact patient health outcomes, including recovery from illness, injury, surgery, or disease; and

WHEREAS; exacerbated by global food insecurity and still reeling from the effects of the coronavirus pandemic, malnutrition presents a serious threat to public health across the state and country, and according to the World Health Organization, malnutrition is one of the biggest threats to public health worldwide; and

WHEREAS; malnutrition disproportionately affects vulnerable populations, including aging and older adults, low-income communities, and communities of color, and these populations also experience the highest incidence of some of the most severe chronic illnesses that are impacted by nutrition, such as diabetes, kidney disease, cancer, and cardiovascular disease; and

WHEREAS; combating the prevalence of malnutrition requires incorporating screening, assessment, diagnosis, and intervention across the continuum of care, as well as addressing the presence of food deserts—which occur when folks do not have reasonably convenient access to nutritious food sources, like supermarkets and grocery stores—in communities across the state and highlighting the importance of reliable access to high-quality, affordable, and nutritious food options; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), DHS's Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources, the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources Inc., the Wisconsin Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition in affirming nutrition as a human right and working to increase awareness of, reduce, and prevent malnutrition in Wisconsin;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim September 18 through 22 2023 as

MALNUTRITION 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 5th day of September 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State