

WHEREAS; perpetrators of domestic violence intentionally use physical, sexual, emotional, economic, psychological, and/or cultural abuse to control their partners, violating their dignity, security, and mental and physical well-being; and

WHEREAS; domestic violence causes significant and long-lasting trauma to countless people of every identity, and in 2022, approximately 38,000 survivors sought lifesaving assistance from local Wisconsin domestic violence service providers and shelters; and

WHEREAS; domestic violence is a public health epidemic that is compounded by racial inequities, resulting in increased danger for victims of domestic violence throughout Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; patterns and generational cycles of domestic violence in the home mirror those of abuse and oppression in society, and the lived experience of domestic violence survivors and the barriers faced on their journey to heal from emotional, psychological, cultural, and physical abuse reflect the need to support survivors and to prevent future violence; and

WHEREAS; the state recognizes all survivors of domestic violence for their resilience and acknowledges the important work and achievements of all those working to end domestic violence throughout Wisconsin and the nation through legislation, advocacy, programming, and support; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families in increasing awareness of and working to address the prevalence of violence in communities, remembering those who have lost their life or a loved one to domestic violence and centering on the experiences of survivors and their journeys to heal;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 2023 as

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS
MONTH**

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 25th day of September 2023.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State