STATE *of* WISCONSIN

OFFICE *of the* GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; mental health conditions are prevalent in the lives of people across the United States, including Wisconsin, with one in five adults experiencing a mental health condition in any given year, according to the National Institute of Mental Health; and

WHEREAS; addressing mental health and ensuring individuals have access to quality, affordable mental health services is essential to the overall health and well-being of every person, which is why Wisconsin declared 2023 the Year of Mental Health to bring much-needed action and attention to this pressing issue; and

WHEREAS; early identification and treatment can make a difference in the successful management of mental illness and recovery, yet many of those affected by mental illness face long delays between the time their symptoms first appear and when they are able to get help due in large part to barriers to healthcare access and the stigma that surrounds mental illness; and

WHEREAS; from kids and families to farmers and veterans, to educators and healthcare workers, to persons with substance use disorders and those experiencing mental health crises, to uninsured or underinsured individuals, all Wisconsinites deserve access to quality, affordable mental and behavioral healthcare services, which is why Wisconsin is proud to support and advance unique and innovative solutions to address the need for increased mental health services; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins mental healthcare providers, advocacy organizations, and people across the state in working to eliminate the stigma surrounding mental illness through commonsense policy, public education efforts, and civic engagement so that mental healthcare can be accessible to all;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 1 – 7, 2023 as

MENTAL ILLNESS 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 25th day of September 2023.

Tony Evers

TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

the Governor:

Sara Godlewski

SARAH GODLEWSKI
Secretary of State