WHEREAS; established in 1965, Head Start programs are an essential resource for families across the United States, offering high-quality early learning, health, and family support services; and
WHEREAS; featuring inclusive programming for kids and families from prenatal to five years old, Head Start programs have supported more than 40 million kids and families across the nation for more than six decades; and
WHEREAS; Wisconsin's Head Start programs serve thousands of kids and their families each year, employ over 4,000 dedicated staff members, and engage a network of thousands of volunteers and parents; and
WHEREAS; research finds that kids who participate in Head Start programs are increasingly likely to graduate high school, attend college, have improved social, emotional, and behavioral development, and experience better long-term outcomes in education, employment, and overall life success; and
WHEREAS; Head Start programs work to address the complex needs of kids and families, serving as a vital safety net for Wisconsin's most at-risk families, underscoring the importance of ensuring the state's Head Start centers have the resources they need to operate and best serve local kids, families, and communities; and
WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins dedicated organizations, educators, child care professionals, families, and community partners across the state in reaffirming its commitment to providing quality early education services for all kids;

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

HEAD START 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 12th day of October 2026.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State