

STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; mental health conditions are real and prevalent in the lives of people across the country, including Wisconsin, as it is estimated that more than one in five adults live with a mental illness throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS; mental health includes one's emotional, psychological, and social well-being, and addressing mental health and ensuring that individuals have access to quality, affordable mental health services is essential to the overall health and well-being of the state; 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 significant delays between the time their symptoms first appear and when they are able to receive help, due in large part to barriers to healthcare access and the stigma that surrounds mental illness; and

WHEREAS; whether it is kids and families, farmers and veterans, educators and healthcare workers, individuals with substance use disorders and those experiencing mental health crises, or uninsured and underinsured individuals, all Wisconsinites deserve access to mental and behavioral healthcare; and

WHEREAS; the state is proud to continue supporting and advancing innovative solutions to address the need for increased mental health resources and services, including support for Wisconsin veterans, investments in mental health resources for farmers, and other measures that address student mental health in Wisconsin schools; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin remains committed to increasing access to mental healthcare and services, addressing disparities in access to quality, affordable mental health and healthcare services among underrepresented groups, supporting research into culturally relevant and evidence-based mental healthcare and services, and reducing stigma; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms that mental and behavioral healthcare is healthcare and reminds all Wisconsinites that, now more than ever, individuals have a responsibility to promote shared values of kindness, empathy, and respect, take good care of themselves, as well as family and neighbors, and work to eliminate the stigma that all too often prevents individuals from seeking much-needed mental health support;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 4 – 10, 2026, as

MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS WEEK

and October 10, 2026, as

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

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 21st day
of September 2026.

Tony Evers
TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR



By the Governor:

Sarah Godlewski
SARAH GODLEWSKI
Secretary of State