

# 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, as it is estimated that more than one in five U.S. adults live with a mental illness, according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; and

*WHEREAS*; mental health includes one's emotional, psychological, and social well-being, and 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 receive 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 6 – 12, 2024, 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 27th day  
of September 2024.

  
TONY EVERS  
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

  
SARAH GODLEWSKI  
Secretary of State