WHEREAS; hospice has helped provide comfort and dignity to millions of American, allowing them to spend their final months at home, surrounded by their loved ones, despite serious and life-limiting illness; and

WHEREAS; delivered by a team of professionals that includes physicians, nurses, social workers, therapists, counselors, and more, hospice and palliative agencies bring patients and family caregivers the highest quality care while respecting the wishes of each patient; and

WHEREAS; through pain management and symptom control, caregiver training and assistance, and emotional and spiritual support, hospice and palliative services ensure patients live surrounded and supported by the faces of loved ones, friends, and committed caregivers; and

WHEREAS; despite the benefits of hospice and palliative care, these services are underutilized, with only about 50 percent of Medicare beneficiaries using the hospice benefit when they are eligible, according to a report from the National Library of Medicine; and

WHEREAS; this month provides all Wisconsinites with the opportunity to learn about hospice and palliative care options and thank hospice and palliative care providers throughout the state for their innumerable contributions to individuals in their time of need and their loved ones;

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

## **HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE 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 16th day of October 2023.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State