

WHEREAS; since the early 1900s, the American Red Cross has played a critical role in helping Wisconsinites prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies; and

WHEREAS; American Red Cross volunteers and staff responded to 798 disasters throughout our state last year, providing emergency assistance to 1,613 families and 4,130 individuals affected by fires, floods, tornadoes, and other disasters, distributing thousands of relief items, safely serving more than 13,529 meals and 9,247 snacks, supporting 4,351 overnight stays, and providing 1,141 mental health contacts; and

WHEREAS; in 2021, thousands of Wisconsinites learned to prevent and prepare for disasters, and more than 1,082 households were made safer, through American Red Cross community disaster virtual and in-class education programs, which included the installation of 1,766 free smoke alarms in people's homes and reaching 1,153 first through third graders through virtual disaster education; and

WHEREAS; thanks to the American Red Cross, more than 70,315 Wisconsinites are now prepared to help their neighbors during a crisis because they have been trained in CPR, the use of automated external defibrillators, first aid, aquatics, and babysitting through Red Cross lifesaving classes; and

WHEREAS; last year, American Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Services caseworkers provided 1,710 critical care community services, 5,281 comfort and care items, 236 resiliency workshops, and 526 follow-up emergency communications to military members, veterans, families, and loved ones, and played an integral role in the initial response to the humanitarian needs of thousands of evacuees from Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS; countless lives across our state were saved because 187,447 units of blood were collected at 5,953 blood drives, and more than 22 Wisconsin hospitals were served by Red Cross Biomedical Services, which recently added sickle cell trait screening for self-identified donors alongside efforts to raise awareness of the acute impact of sickle cell disease on communities of color; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the American Red Cross, in partnership with the United States Department of Homeland Security and Wisconsin Emergency Management, in working to ensure that all Wisconsinites are prepared for disasters and emergencies;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim March 2022 as

## **AMERICAN RED CROSS 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 18<sup>th</sup> day of February 2022.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State