

WHEREAS; the first years of a child’s life are the period of the most rapid brain development, laying the foundation for future learning, health, well-being, growth, and overall success; and

WHEREAS; celebrated nationwide since 1971, Week of the Young Child presents an opportunity to acknowledge the importance of early care and education during this critical time in a child’s life; and

WHEREAS; equitable access to high-quality early care and education is essential to children’s long-term social and emotional development, helping to mitigate the effects of poverty, detect and remediate delays, identify and prevent child neglect, and facilitate overall positive educational outcomes; and

WHEREAS; high-quality early childhood education depends on high-quality early childhood educators who ensure that kids have the early experiences they need to be better prepared for school and more likely to succeed later in life; and

WHEREAS; early childhood educators deserve a family-sustaining wage that is commensurate with the required education and skills they bring to their complex and valuable work, and working families deserve a strong regulatory structure to provide peace of mind that their children are safe in their early care and education settings; and

WHEREAS; the economic and financial security of working families depends on access to child care programs staffed by skilled and fairly compensated early educators, which is why the 2023-25 biennial budget proposal includes numerous provisions to support child care in Wisconsin, including investments to make the successful Child Care Counts and Partner Up! programs permanent; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins state leaders, agencies, dedicated organizations, and community partners in affirming its commitment to investing comprehensively in the state’s early childhood systems and providing the strongest possible start for the state’s youngest children through high-quality early learning opportunities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim April 1 through 7 2023 as

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

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 24th day of March 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State