

STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; forgiveness, empathy, compassion, and respect are core Wisconsin values, and here in Wisconsin, we treat our neighbors with dignity and respect; and

WHEREAS; providing a second chance for formerly incarcerated Wisconsinites who have made amends and put forth the effort to be positive contributors in their communities, is a key opportunity to open doors of opportunity for individuals, their families, and communities across our state and to bolster our state's economy and workforce;

WHEREAS; with more than 20,000 individuals currently incarcerated and more than 63,000 individuals on probation and parole in Wisconsin alone, redemption, second chances, and efforts to invest in people are important to the future and prosperity of the state; and

WHEREAS; formerly incarcerated individuals often face difficulties finding adequate employment, housing, and education, as well as volunteer opportunities and pathways to pay off debt arising from conviction and incarceration, which are all factors that result in lost potential, contribute to recidivism, and affect public safety; and

WHEREAS; the safe and successful reentry of justice-involved individuals while balancing the protection and support of victims and survivors is a priority for the state; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins justice-involved individuals, advocates, and dedicated organizations across the state in reaffirming its commitment to comprehensive and meaningful criminal justice reform, promoting compassion, empathy, and forgiveness as Wisconsin values, and raising awareness of opportunities for individuals, employers, congregations, and communities to extend second chances;


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

SECOND CHANCE 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 21st day of March 2023.


TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:


SARAH GODLEWSKI
Secretary of State