

WHEREAS; the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention identify nutrition during the first 1,000 days of life as a critical factor to early brain growth, development of the central nervous system, and lifelong mental health; and

WHEREAS; last year, the Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition published a field-leading consensus paper defining pediatric feeding disorder (PFD) as impaired oral intake that is not age-appropriate and is associated with medical, nutritional, feeding skill, and/or psychosocial dysfunction; and

WHEREAS; when considering the United States Census Bureau's 2017 population, conservative evaluations estimate that more than 2.3 million children under the age of five nationwide experience severe PFD annually; and

WHEREAS; every bite of food for kids experiencing PFD can be painful, scary, or simply impossible to swallow, potentially impeding nutrition, development, growth, and overall well-being; and

WHEREAS; families navigating PFD often feel isolated and overwhelmed, and struggle to overcome the medical, emotional, financial, educational, and social issues related to the disorder; and

WHEREAS; all Wisconsinites are encouraged to learn more about PFD and support efforts to improve the system of care through advocacy, education, support, and research; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins kids and families living with PFD across our state in raising awareness of the disorder and working towards a world in which affected families are properly supported and kids with PFD can thrive;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim May 2021 as

PEDIATRIC FEEDING DISORDER AWARENESS 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 28th day of April 2021.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State