STATE *of* WISCONSIN

OFFICE *of the* GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; mental health conditions are real and prevalent in lives of Wisconsinites across our state, and addressing mental health and ensuring folks have access to quality, affordable services is essential to the overall health and well-being of every person; and

WHEREAS; the unique challenges of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic have only underscored the importance of mental health support—especially for those already affected by anxiety, depression, trauma, toxic stress, and who have other mental and behavioral health needs—which is why the 2021-23 Badger Bounceback budget proposal includes increased funding for mental health services for all Wisconsinites, from kids and families, to farmers, to veterans, to folks with substance use disorders, to uninsured or underinsured Wisconsinites, and those experiencing mental health crises; and

WHEREAS; our mental health professionals, along with our own personal support systems, can help us embrace and access the tools that we need to build resilience and take a step closer to a healthier future for all of us; and

WHEREAS; in April 2020, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services launched Resilient Wisconsin, a statewide initiative that aims to provide Wisconsinites with the tools that we can all use to build resilience; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin recognizes that mental and behavioral healthcare is healthcare, and that now more than ever, we have a responsibility to promote our shared values of kindness, empathy, and respect, to take good care of ourselves and each other, and to ensure our friends and neighbors feel supported and know there are people who care for them; and

WHEREAS; there is free, confidential help available for anyone by calling the national crisis hotline 1-800-273-8255, or texting HOPELINE to 741741;

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

MENTAL HEALTH 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

TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

the Governor:

Douglas La Follette

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State