

WHEREAS; Alzheimer’s disease is a progressive and debilitating condition that causes the deterioration of brain cells which results in the symptoms of dementia, including memory loss and confusion; and

WHEREAS; according to the Alzheimer’s Association, more than six million Americans and 120,000 Wisconsinites aged 65 and older are living with Alzheimer’s disease, and the number of people diagnosed with the disease in Wisconsin is estimated to increase by 8.3 percent by 2025; and

WHEREAS; Alzheimer’s disease remains a leading cause of death in the United States and in Wisconsin, and while there is currently no cure, certain treatments are available that may decelerate the disease’s progression and help affected individuals and their caregivers improve overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS; it is essential to recognize that support for caregivers, including unpaid and familial caregivers, goes hand-in-hand with upholding health and wellness; and

WHEREAS; there are currently over 198,000 unpaid and familial caregivers in Wisconsin providing a total of 206 million hours of care to those living with dementia at an approximated value of more than \$3.4 billion; and

WHEREAS; caring for individuals with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias will cost the United States approximately \$321 billion in 2022, and this total is estimated to increase to nearly \$1 trillion by mid-century; and

WHEREAS; First Lady Kathy Evers has made raising awareness of Alzheimer’s disease and dementia a priority for her work and, in 2019, worked with the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) of Dane County to help the Wisconsin Executive Residence achieve official designation as a dementia-friendly space for all who visit; and

WHEREAS; building off of the success of the Executive Residence’s designation as a dementia-friendly space, the first lady hosted a summit earlier this year to help other first spouses and residence staff across our country increase and implement dementia-friendly initiatives at their respective executive residences and in their states; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins all who are currently living with Alzheimer’s disease, their loved ones, their caregivers, and dedicated individuals and organizations across our state in encouraging continued research and funding efforts, and in embracing hope for the development of new and innovative approaches to address Alzheimer’s disease;

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

## **ALZHEIMER’S AND BRAIN 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 27<sup>th</sup> day of May 2022.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State