

WHEREAS; 850 Wisconsinites lost their lives to suicide in 2019; and

WHEREAS; suicide is a serious public health issue – as outlined in a 2020 report from Prevent Suicide Wisconsin, Suicide in Wisconsin: Impact and Response – and has been identified as a State Public Health Plan priority area within Healthy Wisconsin, the current five-year state health plan; and

WHEREAS; each death by suicide directly impacts numerous family members, friends, coworkers, loved ones, and entire communities; and

WHEREAS; folks who may be struggling and in need of support should know that they are loved and valued by their communities, and should see that value affirmed in how their communities address suicide prevention; and

WHEREAS; suicide prevention requires collaboration and compassion from friends, families, neighbors, coworkers, businesses, government agencies, and community organizations to implement strategies for early intervention, treatment, prevention, and postvention; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms its commitment to building resilience among individuals, families, and communities, increasing access to behavioral health and healthcare, reducing stigma, implementing best practices regarding suicide prevention in healthcare systems, and improving the investigation and reporting of suicide deaths; and

WHEREAS; we recognize that it may be more difficult for folks to take care of themselves at this time due to increased stress and anxiety, but we remind all Wisconsinites that there is always free, confidential support available by calling the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 or texting HOPELINE to 741741;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim September 2020 as

SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

and September 10, 2020, as

SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY

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 3rd day of September 2020.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State