

# STATE of WISCONSIN



## OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS*, mental health conditions are real and prevalent in the lives of people across the United States, including in Wisconsin, with about one in five adults in our country experiencing a mental health condition in any given year, according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; and

*WHEREAS*, addressing mental health and ensuring folks have access to quality, affordable mental health services is essential to the overall health and well-being of every person; and

*WHEREAS*, mental and behavioral healthcare is healthcare, and receiving treatment for a mental illness should be treated with the same care and importance as receiving treatment for any other medical condition; and

*WHEREAS*, early identification and treatment can make a difference in the successful management of mental illness and recovery, yet many of those affected by mental illness face long delays between the time their symptoms first appear and when they are able to get help, due in large part to barriers to healthcare access and the stigma that surrounds mental illness; and

*WHEREAS*, from kids and families to farmers and veterans, to educators and healthcare workers, to folks with substance use disorders and those experiencing mental health crises, to uninsured or underinsured individuals, all Wisconsinites deserve access to quality, affordable mental and behavioral healthcare services, which is why our state has been proud to both support and advance unique and innovative solutions to address the need for increased mental health services; and

*WHEREAS*, this week, the state of Wisconsin joins mental healthcare providers, advocacy organizations, and people across our state in working to eliminate the stigma surrounding mental illness through commonsense policy, public education efforts, and civic engagement so that mental healthcare can be accessible to all;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim October 2 – 8, 2022, as

## MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS WEEK

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 12<sup>th</sup> day of  
September 2022.

TONY EVERS  
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

  
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE  
Secretary of State