

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; applying 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, struggling 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

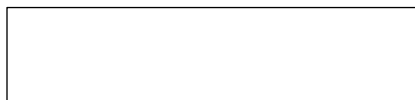
WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins kids and families living with PFD across our state in raising awareness of the disorder and working towards creating a world in which kids with PFD can thrive;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim December 2020 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 25<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State