

STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin acknowledges the many physical and mental health benefits of breastfeeding for babies and promotes inclusive support for every family, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, education level, socioeconomic status, or any other factor that makes every family and community unique; and

WHEREAS; while there is limited research on the prevalence of breastfeeding among Native families—a reflection of the unique barriers and systemic racism faced by Indigenous people in healthcare, employment, and community settings—it is well-documented that racial disparities in breastfeeding rates persist due to these barriers; and

WHEREAS; reducing racial disparities in healthcare and birth outcomes, promoting diversity in the lactation field, and changing systems and structures to better support families is critical, and the state applauds the community-based breastfeeding organizations that are championing this important work; and

WHEREAS; while August is National Breastfeeding Month, Indigenous Milk Medicine Week is dedicated to prioritizing and celebrating the experiences of Native families and is centered on encouraging breastfeeding to combat the systemic injustices that prevent families from achieving their full potential; and


WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins dedicated advocates and organizations across the state, along with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, in celebrating breastfeeding, promoting awareness of its benefits, and ensuring equitable access and opportunity for all families, now and in the future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim August 8 – 14, 2024, as

INDIGENOUS MILK MEDICINE 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 2nd day
of August 2024.


TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:


SARAH GODLEWSKI
Secretary of State