

# STATE of WISCONSIN



## OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS*; aging and older adults are leaders, mentors, volunteers, and vital members of communities across the state who deserve to be treated with respect and live with dignity; and

*WHEREAS*; established by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization in 2006, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day aims to promote a better understanding of the abuse and neglect of older adults; and

*WHEREAS*; in 2021, more than 10,700 reports of abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation of Wisconsinites aged 60 and older were received by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, and as the global population of aging and older adults continues to grow, including in Wisconsin, understanding the root causes of elder abuse and the best practices to mitigate its prevalence is critically important; and

*WHEREAS*; isolation and ageism are leading causes of elder abuse, and preventing the abuse of older adults through maintaining and improving social supports like senior centers, in-home services, and accessible transportation is critical to helping older adults live independently and fully contribute to the vibrancy of Wisconsin communities; and

*WHEREAS*; justice cannot exist when there is abuse; therefore, all people are urged to challenge the sources of inequities, advocate for the rights of older adults, and be proactive in awareness of signs of abuse; and

*WHEREAS*; today, the state of Wisconsin joins dedicated individuals and organizations in the state, throughout the country, and around the world in raising awareness, taking action to prevent and address elder abuse, and encouraging all people to celebrate and appreciate the countless contributions of older adults and their role in the success of communities throughout the state;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim June 15, 2023, as

## WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS 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 5<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023.

TONY EVERS  
GOVERNOR

By Governor:

  
SARAH GODLEWSKI  
Secretary of State