



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, alcohol abuse is a major public health problem that affects all Wisconsin residents; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin has the highest rates in the nation of high school students who drink (49 percent); underage drinking (39 percent), drinking among adults (68 percent), and binge drinking among adults (22 percent); and

WHEREAS, this abuse of alcohol in 2005 resulted in 2,082 deaths, 5,992 vehicle injuries, 16,677 hospitalizations, more than 126,000 arrests, and expenditures of more than \$1.89 million on hospitalizations and treatment in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, community norms that foster alcohol abuse are a major factor; and

WHEREAS, stigma and discrimination present obstacles to treatment for citizens with an alcohol use disorder; and

WHEREAS, parental support, monitoring, and communication can significantly reduce drinking among adolescents; and

WHEREAS, treatment of alcohol abuse is as successful as the treatment of other chronic diseases; and

WHEREAS, during the month of April, the Wisconsin Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and the State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse will sponsor Town Hall meetings; provide adolescent screening tools to all high schools and interested County Juvenile Justice units; and distribute "A Parent's Guide to Treatment" to the public;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jim Doyle, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2008 as

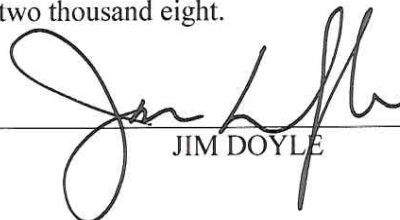
ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH

In the State of Wisconsin, and call upon the people of Wisconsin to:

- Increase awareness of alcohol use disorders and the success of prevention and treatment
- Increase screenings for potential alcohol use disorders as part of regular health exams
- Support and encourage referrals for treatment for individuals when an alcohol use disorder is suspected or is present



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 eighteenth day of March in the year two thousand eight.


JIM DOYLE

By the Governor:


DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State