



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the term “fetal alcohol spectrum disorders” is an umbrella term that describes the range of effects that can occur in an individual whose mother drank alcohol during pregnancy; and

WHEREAS, fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD) are a leading cause of mental retardation, learning, and behavioral disabilities in the United States, and are preventable; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin leads the nation in binge drinking by women of childbearing age and has the highest rates of many alcohol indicators, including: current drinking among adults, chronic heavy drinking among adults and current underage drinking; and

WHEREAS, each year in Wisconsin approximately 70-80 babies are born with fetal alcohol syndrome and an additional 150-200 are born with other negative effects related to prenatal alcohol exposure; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin supports programming to increase the State’s capacity to identify and treat FASDs, including funding for the Wisconsin FASD Treatment Outreach Project and the My Baby and Me Project to provide services to women at risk of an alcohol-exposed pregnancy; and

WHEREAS, the Family Empowerment Network has existed in Wisconsin for 20 years to provide education, resources, advocacy, and support to families affected by FASD;

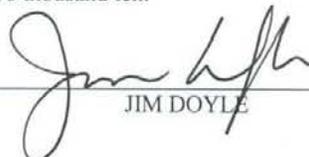
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jim Doyle, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim September 9, 2010 as:

FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS AWARENESS DAY

and I call upon the people of Wisconsin to:

- ✓ minimize the further effects of prenatal alcohol exposure
- ✓ reduce the risk of alcohol-exposed pregnancies
- ✓ increase the capacity of physicians to diagnose and treat FASDs
- ✓ increase compassion and effective services for individuals affected by prenatal alcohol exposure
- ✓ ensure that women with alcohol concerns have a point of contact within their own community to access effective services
- ✓ support Wisconsin’s FASD initiatives, including Family Empowerment Network, My Baby and Me, FASD Treatment Outreach Project, Great Lakes FASD Regional Training Center, Arc Smart Start, and Orchids FASD Services, Inc.

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 thirtieth day of August in the year two thousand ten.


JIM DOYLE

By the Governor


DOUGLAS W. FOLLEN
Secretary of State

