



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Breastfeeding is proven to support life-long health and wellness, and all major medical authorities recommend exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of life, with continued human milk feeding for up to two years; and
- WHEREAS: There are substantial racial and ethnic disparities for Indigenous and Native American people as they attempt to access lactation support within health care, employment, and community settings; and
- WHEREAS: It is important to address barriers to breastfeeding and human milk feeding faced by Indigenous and Native American families across Minnesota and to promote inclusive support for all breastfeeding families regardless of Tribal nation, ethnicity, sexual orientation, education level, or socioeconomic status; and
- WHEREAS: In recognizing the importance of reducing racial and ethnic disparities and promoting healthy birth outcomes and diversity of lactation, Minnesota applauds the community-based Indigenous breastfeeding counselors, lactation educators, and lactation organizations across the state that are championing this important work; and
- WHEREAS: It is critical to center the experiences of Indigenous and Native American people and combat the racial disparities and systemic injustices they face so that everyone in Minnesota can have a healthy, strong, and thriving family.

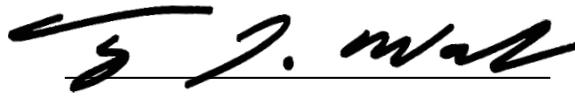
NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim August 8-14 2024, as:

## INDIGENOUS MILK MEDICINE WEEK

in the State of Minnesota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 5<sup>th</sup> day of August.



  
GOVERNOR

  
SECRETARY OF STATE