

# Proclamation

## by Governor Patrick Morrisey

- Whereas,** the early childhood years are the most active period for the developing brain, and a stable, secure relationship with a nurturing, caring adult is a key factor in the development of young children; and
- Whereas,** many parents begin the difficult lifetime job of raising a child feeling unprepared for the challenges ahead, and children have a better, healthier start when parents have the support and skills needed to raise them; and
- Whereas,** home visiting can include a variety of different programs and models, including early childhood home visiting programs and parenting education programs; and
- Whereas,** home visiting programs help parents meet the unique needs of their children, promote healthy development, strengthen family relationships, reduce the risk of abuse and neglect, and link families to comprehensive support/resources available in their respective communities; and
- Whereas,** well-trained professionals implement early childhood home visitation so that all families have the opportunity to access information in ways that respect their unique beliefs, traditions, and customs; and
- Whereas,** the West Virginia Department of Health, Bureau for Public Health, Office of Maternal, Child and Family Health, West Virginia Home Visitation Program plays a distinct and critical role by aiming to strengthen parent-child bonds, improve maternal and newborn health, and increase family economic self-sufficiency; and
- Whereas,** the Great State of West Virginia urges individuals and organizations across the state to utilize home visiting resources as needed to support the health and well-being of children and families.

**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Patrick Morrisey, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim, *April 20-24, 2026*, as:

### *National Home Visiting Week*

in the Mountain State, and encourage all individuals, communities, and organizations to observe the week with appropriate programs and activities designed to enhance public awareness of home visiting and recognize home visitors and the positive impact they make on maternal and child health outcomes.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

**Done** at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Twentieth Day of April, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Six, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Third Year of the State.



*Patrick Morrisey*  
Governor

*By the Governor:*



*Kris Warner*  
Secretary of State