



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
HARRISBURG

THE GOVERNOR

Greetings:

It is my pleasure to join in support of acknowledging May 2023 as Pediatric Feeding Disorder Awareness Month.

Pediatric Feeding Disorder (PFD) is an impaired oral intake that is not age-appropriate and is associated with medical, nutritional, feeding skill, and/or psychological dysfunction. PFD affects more than 1 in 37 children under the age of five as well as more than 1 in 5 children with a chronic disease. Children suffering from PFD find that every bite can be painful, scary, or simply impossible to swallow, potentially impeding nutrition and development.

Research identifies nutrition during the first 1,000 days of life as a critical factor to early brain growth, development of the central nervous system, and lifelong mental health. Early detection and treatment for this disorder is vital to ensure long-term health. I applaud organizations like Feeding Matters, who are paramount for families to support, encourage, and raise awareness for PFD. I commend all those working to educate the public about the need for early detection and encouraging advancements in care, research, and funding.

As Governor, and on behalf of all Pennsylvanians, I am delighted to stand in support with patients, families, advocates, researchers, and medical professionals for May 2023 as Pediatric Feeding Disorder Awareness Month.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Shapiro".

JOSH SHAPIRO  
May 2023