

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention identify 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; and,

*Whereas*, the Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition published a field-leading consensus paper defining pediatric feeding disorder (PFD) as impaired oral intake that is not age-appropriate and is associated with medical, nutritional, feeding skill, and/or psychosocial dysfunction; and,

*Whereas*, more than one in five children with a chronic disease experience severe PFD in the United States annually; and,

*Whereas*, every bite of food for children with PFD can be painful, scary, or simply impossible to swallow, potentially impeding nutrition, development, growth, and overall well-being; and,

*Whereas*, families navigating pediatric feeding disorder (PFD) often feel isolated and overwhelmed, struggling to overcome the medical, emotional, financial, educational, and social issues related to PFD; and,

*Whereas*, raising awareness for pediatric feeding disorder (PFD) will accelerate identification, ignite research, and promote collaborative care and support for children and families:

*Now, Therefore, I, Kristi Noem*, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 2023, as

## **PEDIATRIC FEEDING DISORDER (PFD) AWARENESS MONTH**

in South Dakota, calling upon all citizens to learn more about pediatric feeding disorder (PFD) and to support the efforts to improve the system of care through advocacy, education, support, and research.

*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fourth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.



Kristi Noem, Governor

Attest:

Monae L. Johnson  
Monae L. Johnson, Secretary of State