

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, in 2024, Washington state observed the inaugural Black Wellness Week, recognizing the importance of addressing health disparities and barriers to well-being within the Black community; and

WHEREAS, Black Wellness Week continues the legacy of Booker T. Washington's National Negro Health Week, which historically emphasized community-driven approaches to improving Black health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, holistic wellness, including physical, mental, emotional, and social health is essential to building thriving communities; and

WHEREAS, health disparities persist, impacting Black residents at disproportionate rates in areas such as chronic disease, maternal health, mental health access, and preventive care; and

WHEREAS, Black Wellness Week prioritizes wellness and health equity by focusing on education, prevention and access to resources that promote long-term well-being; and

WHEREAS, the 2025 observance of Black Wellness Week will take place from April 14-18, engaging local organizations, healthcare providers and community members in education, outreach and advocacy efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Ferguson, governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim April 14-18, 2025, as

Black Wellness Week

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 28th day of March, 2025

Handwritten signature of Bob Ferguson in blue ink.

Governor Bob Ferguson

