

City of Gainesville, Florida
Office of Mayor Lauren Poe
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Human trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of a person by use of force, fraud, or coercion, to gain consent of another person for purposes of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs; and

WHEREAS, Human trafficking is a worldwide, public health and human being crisis that sees no geographical boundaries, and does occur in Gainesville, Alachua County Florida; and

WHEREAS, The National Human Trafficking Hotline reports that in 2019 Florida was the third highest in reports of human trafficking in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, Although human trafficking disproportionately affects woman and young girls, men and young boys are exploited as well. As a result, human trafficking endangers the lives of millions of people around the world with no actual deference to race, sex, gender or religion. This means your co-workers, friends, family, and your own children are at risk; and

WHEREAS, At one time people thought their children were safe within the confines of their own home. Now parents, family and friends must acknowledge that children are commonly being groomed, targeted and exploited through the internet; and

WHEREAS, The North Central Human Trafficking Task Force seeks to build a network of partnerships in Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy and Union counties that unites governmental agencies, non-governmental and faith-based organizations, victim service providers, educational institutions, civic groups, and concerned citizens to prevent the exploitation of adults and children in all forms of human trafficking, rescue victims, and provide rehabilitative services for survivors.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lauren Poe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim January, 2021 as

National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in promoting and supporting Slavery and Human Trafficking prevention efforts.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 20th day of November, A.D., 2020.


Lauren Poe
Mayor

