

Proclamation

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH JANUARY 2024

Whereas, human trafficking is a public health issue and crime that exploits the most vulnerable among us and weakens the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities across generations; and

Whereas, more than 20 years since the passing of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act, human trafficking still exists—including the forced or fraudulent recruitment, harboring, or transportation of people for labor or commercial sex; and

Whereas, human trafficking can happen to anyone, but certain populations are disproportionately at risk, including people affected by abuse, violence, poverty, unstable living situations, social disconnection, or discrimination; and

Whereas, people can be trafficked in person and online; in industries such as restaurants, domestic work, construction, agriculture, and factories; and by strangers or someone they know, including employers, partners, and family members; and

Whereas, human trafficking can be prevented by building individual, community, and societal understanding and resilience, reducing social inequities, and addressing the conditions that contribute to exploitation; and

Whereas, every individual, family, community, and organization can contribute to enhancing human trafficking awareness, prevention, and response by learning about ways to help.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Juan Antonio Banales, Mayor, on behalf of the City Council of the City of Pittsburg hereby proclaim January 2024 as HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH, and urge all residents to actively participate in the efforts to both raise awareness of and prevent all forms of human trafficking.

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Juan Antonio Banales, Mayor

ATTEST:

Alice E. Evenson, City Clerk

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