

CITY OF NORTHFIELD, MN
CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2020- 001
PROCLAIMING JANUARY 2020 AS NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS
AND PREVENTION MONTH AND JANUARY 11, 2020 AS NATIONAL HUMAN
TRAFFICKING AWARENESS DAY IN NORTHFIELD

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking is a nationwide public health and civil rights crisis. Its victims and survivors are everywhere, with each city and community being no exception; and

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking includes both forced labor and sex trafficking; and

WHEREAS, anyone can be a victim. In the U.S., it is estimated that 2-4 million victims are being trafficked. 75% are exploited for sex. Almost half are children, and most are women and girls. Victims come from all demographics. Traffickers target individuals who, for a variety of reasons, are vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota's Safe Harbor Law recognizes that any youth under the age of 18 who is exploited through prostitution will no longer face criminal prosecution and will instead receive comprehensive and trauma-informed services. These services are available to youth through age 24; and

WHEREAS, in Minnesota, the average age of participants served under Safe Harbor was 17. A slightly higher percentage of youth served were in greater Minnesota (54%) compared to the metro area (46%). Most participants were female (91%), while 6% identified as male and 3% as transgender, gender non-conforming and other. More than half (59%) of participants were people of color; and

WHEREAS, Rotary International, specifically Rotary Districts 5950, 5960 and 5580 are striving to increase awareness and promote prevention. The mission of the Initiative is to End Human Trafficking in communities in Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota and parts of Ontario (regions covered by Rotary Districts 5950, 5960, and 5580). We will coordinate mobilizing Rotarians in clubs throughout the region to engage their communities in this issue; and

WHEREAS, Rotary initiatives focus on: raising awareness, educating children and youth, reducing risk factors that make children and youth vulnerable, and stopping the demand; and

WHEREAS, all communities must seek to prevent human trafficking before it can occur, by promoting safe, healthy, and supportive environments by changing the culture of acceptance of this evil; and

WHEREAS, January was first declared as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month in 2010 and Human Trafficking Awareness Day is observed every year on January 11 by Presidential Proclamation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL THAT:
The City Council declares January as Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention month and January 11, 2020 as Human Trafficking Awareness day in Northfield.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Northfield on this 7th day of January, 2020

ATTEST

City Clerk

Mayor

VOTE: ___ POWNELL ___ DELONG ___ GRABAU ___ NAKASIAN
 ___ NESS ___ PETERSON WHITE ___ ZWEIFEL