

CITY OF ROCHESTER
CITY COUNCIL OFFICE

Proclamation

Whereas, National Human Trafficking Awareness Day was first observed in 2011 when President Barack Obama signed the Presidential Proclamation of National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, drawing attention to the atrocities faced by people across the globe; and

Whereas, For the untold numbers of individuals who are trafficked and exploited every year, coerced into sex work, forced and tricked into unsafe labor, and subjugated by those they trusted to help them; today is a day to recognize their plight, to honor and support the survivors, and use our voices and join the call to action; and

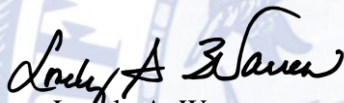
Whereas, No community is immune; each year in Monroe County hundreds of individuals face traffickers, their detrimental impact often hidden from the public eye. Yet; thanks to groups like the Rochester Regional Coalition Against Human Trafficking, its member organizations and service providers, those affected by trafficking are provided a safety net of care and connected, supportive staff who understand how this trauma has changed them, and who will work with them to bring their lives back to normalcy; and

Whereas, As a community we must make ourselves more aware of the warning signs of human trafficking; we must be willing to report a situation when there is concern that injustice is taking place; we must be conscientious consumers and learn about where and how the products we use are made; and


Whereas, Locally, tremendous efforts are underway to support those impacted by trafficking; in 2013 the Rochester Human Trafficking Court was created and last year it expanded its services to include the towns and villages in Monroe County; we know that the Coalition will advocate for policy and programs that will benefit those who have experienced trafficking, and we will continue to support these efforts.


Now, Therefore, We, Mayor, Lovely A. Warren, we, Council President Loretta C. Scott, Council Vice President Willie J. Lightfoot, and Councilmembers Malik D. Evans, Mitch Gruber, LaShay D. Harris, Mary Lupien, Miguel A. Meléndez Jr., Michael A. Patterson, and Jose Peo of the City of Rochester do hereby proclaim January 11, 2021 to be a call to awareness for:

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS DAY



Lovely A. Warren
Mayor


Loretta C. Scott
Council President

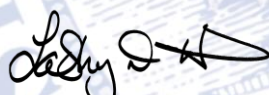

Willie J. Lightfoot
Vice President


Miguel Meléndez
Councilmember


Michael A. Patterson
Councilmember


Malik D. Evans
Councilmember


Mitch Gruber
Councilmember


LaShay D. Harris
Councilmember


Mary Lupien
Councilmember


Jose Peo
Councilmember