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# Proclamation

## National Human Trafficking Prevention 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;

**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;

**Whereas**, an estimated 27.6 million people are subjected to human trafficking globally, including cases of human trafficking reported in every U.S. state and territory;

**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;

**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;

**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;

**Whereas**, the City of Johnson City is dedicated to ensuring anyone impacted by human trafficking can receive services that provide individualized care, understand the impact of trauma, and incorporate cultural and linguistic needs;

**Whereas**, a successful response to human trafficking requires a coordinated, community-wide effort;

**Whereas**, people who have experienced human trafficking have relevant perspectives and expertise, and the City of Johnson City will engage and collaborate with them to develop and strengthen trafficking-related services and programs; and

**Whereas**, every individual, family, community, and organization can contribute to enhancing human trafficking awareness, prevention, and response by learning about ways to help at [acf.hhs.gov/otip](http://acf.hhs.gov/otip) and [humantraffickinghotline.org](http://humantraffickinghotline.org);

**Now, therefore, I**, as Mayor of the City of Johnson City, Texas do hereby proclaim the month of January 2024 as Human Trafficking Prevention Month in the City of Johnson City, Texas.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the seal of the City of Johnson City, Texas to be affixed.

**ATTEST:**

Whitney Walston, City Secretary

Stephanie Fisher, Mayor  
City of Johnson City, Texas

