

PROCLAMATION
of the
SEMINOLE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2023 AS
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS and PREVENTION MONTH IN
SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a public health and civil rights crisis, with victims and survivors in every city and community; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking includes both labor and sex trafficking, is a significant problem both foreign and domestic, includes victims from all demographics, targets individuals who may be vulnerable for a variety of reasons; and

WHEREAS, sex trafficking is difficult to quantify due to the hidden nature of the crime, challenges in identifying victims, and hesitancy of victims to report; and

WHEREAS, the International Labor Organization estimates that there are 24.9 million victims of human trafficking globally, which includes 6 million children victims. It is also estimated that forced labor and human trafficking is a \$150 billion industry worldwide, and Florida is the third-largest hub for human trafficking in the country; and

WHEREAS, in January 2023, our community came together to shed light on the threat of human trafficking and encouraged the United Abolitionists, Paving the Way Foundation, One More Child, Love Missions and the Central Florida Human Trafficking Task Force to join forces towards combating modern-day slavery and human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, for the past 15 years, tens of thousands of central Floridians have been educated and moved to take-action to stop this horrific crime, and for over a decade, survivors have been empowered through restorative and healing programming; and

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2023 the Central Florida Human Trafficking Task Force hosted the Red Sand event in Seminole County to highlight Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month and to share information and strategies in an effort to combat human trafficking in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Seminole County Board of County Commissioners hereby proclaims the month of January 2023 as “Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month” in Seminole County.

ADOPTED this 24th day of January 2023

Amy Lockhart, Chairman
Seminole County Board of County Commissioners