

PROCLAMATION *CITY OF FREEDOM*

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery where more than half of the active cases in the United States are sex trafficking cases involving children; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of American children are the victims of trafficking every year in the United States and survivor identification is only at 1%; and

WHEREAS, child sex trafficking can have psychological, emotional, and physical effects that can have lifelong consequences for victims of trafficking; and

WHEREAS, even though awareness of this crime is growing, human trafficking continues to go unreported due to its isolating nature, the misunderstanding of its definition, and the lack of awareness about its indicators; and

WHEREAS, providing individuals with training on how to spot, report, and prevent trafficking will equip people with the education they need to report suspected trafficking or prevent vulnerable individuals from being trafficked in our community; and

WHEREAS, increased community education on how to identify victims of human trafficking along with increased knowledge of local resources and services for those affected by these criminal actions can help restore freedom and dignity to identified survivors, as well as help diminish the number of future victims; and

WHEREAS, Safe House Project educates to increase victim identification through online services such as their OnWatch Training program and provides response services as victims become survivors through residential safe house programs, emergency services, and economic empowerment.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it proclaimed that, I, Lynn Deutsch, Mayor of the City of Dunwoody, do hereby recognize the efficacy of education as a human trafficking prevention tool and call upon the citizens and employees of Dunwoody to recognize our vital role in ending all forms of human trafficking and encourage everyone to educate themselves through training.

This proclamation, along with the strengthening of local ordinances and enforcement efforts, affirms Dunwoody's commitment to creating a community where everyone has value, dignity, and worth; and to express commitment to come alongside those who are on the front lines of victim identification and the providers who empower a survivor's path to freedom.

If you see something that doesn't look right, take action and call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 888-373-7888 or text "HELP" to 233733.

Given under my hand this 10th day of January 2022.

City of Dunwoody

Lynn P. Deutsch, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sharon Lowery, City Clerk