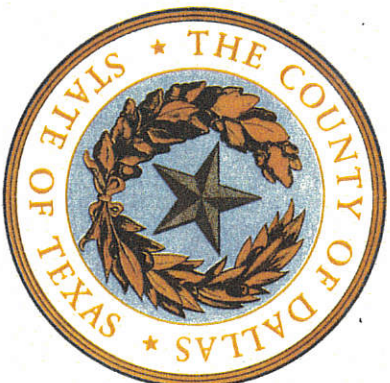


Resolution

ORDER NO. 2022-0004

DATE: January 11, 2022

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF DALLAS §



BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 11th day of January, 2022 on a motion made by Dr. Elba Garcia, Commissioner of District 4 and seconded by John Wiley Price, Commissioner of District 3, the following Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, January is **Human Trafficking Prevention Month**. Every year on January 11th, **Human Trafficking Awareness Day** is observed. Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery in which traffickers target vulnerable populations, including men, women, children, citizens and non-citizens, forcing them into servitude and/or the sex trade; and

WHEREAS, victims of human trafficking suffer severe emotional, psychological and physical terrors at the hands of their captors who instill fear to keep them enslaved. Traffickers typically use multiple means to control their victims, including beatings, rape, isolation, drug and/or alcohol dependency, document withholding, and psychological and emotional abuse; and

WHEREAS, Texas ranks 2nd in the country for trafficking prevalence, with more than 300,000 annual victims statewide, and in Dallas, an estimated 400 teens are sold for sex every night, as part of a \$99 million illegal industry. Sex trafficking is the number one fastest-growing organized crime business in the world, and the third largest criminal operation; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to create awareness and become proactive in eliminating human sex trafficking in Dallas County, different organizations and programs have created systems in which victims of this epidemic can be helped as well as offenders can be educated and effectively prosecuted; and

WHEREAS, New Friends New Life (NFNL) is one of the programs in Dallas County that restores and empowers formerly trafficked teen girls and sexually exploited women and their children. By providing access to education, job training, interim financial assistance, mental health and spiritual support, New Friends New Life helps women and their children overcome backgrounds of abuse, addiction, poverty and limited opportunities; and

WHEREAS, other local organizations that focus on combating this devastating epidemic are as follows: New Life Opportunities, Healthy Options for Personal Empowerment (HOPE) Class, Solicitors, Traffickers, & Offenders of Prostitution (STOP) School, Pre-Trial Intervention Program, Dallas County District Attorney's Office, Dallas County Sheriff's Department, Dallas County Public Defenders Office, Dallas County (STAR) Court, Dallas County Health & Human Services, Dallas Police Department and their VICE Unit, City of Dallas Community Court Prostitution Diversion Initiative (PDI), Mosaic Family Services, Haven of Love, It's Going To Be OK, Inc., Parkland Health & Hospital System and 24HourDallas.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby declare the month of January as **Human Trafficking Prevention Month** and **January 11th** as **Human Trafficking Awareness Day** commends New Friends New Life and the local organizations for their advocacy and commitment to help victims and their efforts to eradicate human trafficking in Dallas County.

DONE IN OPEN COURT this the 11th day of January 2022.


Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge


Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1


J.J. Koch, District 2


John Wiley Price, District 3


Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4