

Proclamation

RECOGNIZING HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS IN INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA

Whereas, Human Trafficking is the second largest criminal industry in the world and is a form of modern-day slavery in which human beings are controlled, abused and exploited for profit through labor and sex; and

Whereas, Human Trafficking is the fastest-growing crime in the world and children have become the primary target of traffickers and predators as reported by the Florida State Alliance to End Human Trafficking in 2022; and

Whereas, Florida ranks as #3 in the nation for human trafficking hotline calls while Human Trafficking and Child Exploitation online is happening in our own backyards; and

Whereas, Local agencies, organizations, business and faith leaders are connecting to bring an end to the enslavement and abuse of victims through awareness and tips to local law enforcement; and

Whereas, Florida Faith Alliance and Catch the Wave of Hope are working to alert Indian River County to the immediate crisis and the need for all to become educated and promote services and therapy for victims.

Now, Therefore, be it Proclaimed by the Board of County Commissioners of Indian River County, Florida, we recognize Florida Faith Alliance, Catch the Wave of Hope and other local organizations working to eliminate Human Trafficking. Together we can stop this travesty through awareness, education, restoration and legislation.

Adopted this 9th day of January, 2024.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA

Susan Adams, Chairman

Joseph E. Flescher, Vice Chairman

Joseph H. Earman

Deryl Loar

Laura Moss