

# PROCLAMATION

## City of Charlotte/Mecklenburg County

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery – a multi-billion dollar criminal industry that denies freedom to 24.9 million people around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the FBI, the average age girls are recruited into trafficking is 12 to 14 and the average age of boys and transgender victims recruited is 11 to 13; and

**WHEREAS**, in some cases, traffickers trick, defraud or physically force victims into providing commercial sex; in other cases, victims are lied to, assaulted, threatened or manipulated into working under inhumane, illegal or otherwise unacceptable conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center, North Carolina is number ten in the United States and has been in the top ten since 2012, and the city of Charlotte is considered the number one destination in North Carolina for trafficking; and

**WHEREAS**, Human Trafficking Awareness Month is a great opportunity for the city of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County to address the issue of sex and labor trafficking in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Human Trafficking Awareness Month is a great opportunity to recognize the local programs that provide shelter, programs and services, as well as recognize the individuals advocating for trafficking victims in our community; and

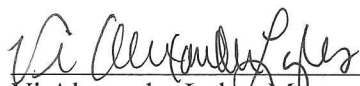
**WHEREAS**, Human Trafficking Charlotte (HTCharlotte) and all the local programs and services thank the city of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County on making Human Trafficking a priority in 2020:

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE**, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of the City of Charlotte, and George Dunlap, Chair of the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim January 2020 as


### “HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH”

in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County and commend its observance to all citizens.

**WITNESS OUR HANDS** and the official Seals of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

  
Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor  
City of Charlotte



  
George Dunlap, Chair  
Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners

