

CITY OF SPOKANE



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, human trafficking for the purposes of forced labor or sexual exploitation is the third largest crime industry in the world; it is a public health issue that impacts individuals, families, and communities, and traffickers disproportionately target at-risk populations including individuals who have experienced or been exposed to other forms of violence (child abuse and maltreatment, interpersonal violence and sexual assault, community and gang violence) and individuals disconnected from stable support networks (youth who have run away or are homeless, unaccompanied minors, persons displaced during natural disasters); and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a violation of human rights by involving force, coercion, and/or fraud, or in which the victim is under the 18 years of age, and is unbiased when it comes to its victims/survivors, including, but not limited to, all ages, gender identities, race, religion, and social classes; and

WHEREAS, the Inland Northwest Human Trafficking Task Force has been working for over a decade to better inform, educate, and engage our community members to best support those who seek help, and their intention is to collaboratively use a trauma-informed approach and create low barrier services through prevention and intervention, advocacy, empowerment and healing:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nadine Woodward, Mayor of the City of Spokane, on behalf of the citizens of Spokane, do hereby proclaim the month of January 2022 as

SLAVERY & HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH

in Spokane and January 11th as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day and encourage all of our citizens to start by believing and to become informed on this growing problem, to be vigilant and report suspicious activity, and to work toward solutions to end trafficking in all its forms in our community.

I, Nadine Woodward, Mayor of Spokane,
do hereunto set my hand and
cause the seal of the City of Spokane
to be affixed this
3rd day of January 2022.

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Nadine Woodward".

Nadine Woodward
Mayor

