

## TOWN OF AREA CAROLINA

## Proclamation

## Human Trafficking Prevention Month 2023

from the Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, Human trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person through the use of force, fraud, or coercion, for the purpose of forced labor or sexual servitude; and

WHEREAS, Human trafficking is a 32-billion dollar a year global criminal enterprise as well as an abhorrent civil and human rights violation; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina ranks #12 in number of reported cases of human trafficking per year in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Human trafficking has been documented to affect individuals of every gender and socioeconomic status, women, girls, and economically disadvantaged individuals are disproportionately trafficked; and

WHEREAS, The number of support resources and restoration opportunities for survivors is currently not sufficient; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Apex is committed to bolstering efforts that target bringing an end to human trafficking and raising awareness about the realties and needs of survivors.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor of Apex, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim, The Month of January 2023, Human Trafficking Prevention Month in the Town of Apex, and urge the residents of Apex to support efforts and take action in this month and all months that follow to help end human trafficking.

I hereby set my hand and have caused the Seal of the Town of Apex, North Carolina, to be affixed this the 24th day of January 2023

Jacques Gilbert, Mayor