



*"The Peak of Good Living"*

# TOWN OF APEX NORTH CAROLINA

## *Proclamation*

### **Human Trafficking Prevention Month 2025**

*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, During Fiscal Year 2024, agencies funded by the North Carolina Department of Administration's Council for Women and Youth Involvement Reported Serving 767 Human Trafficking Survivors; and,

WHEREAS, Victims and survivors of Human Trafficking suffer tremendous abuses which create lifelong challenges requiring physical and psychological recovery; and,

WHEREAS, Addressing Human Trafficking requires collaboration between survivor leaders, governments, non-profit organizations, law enforcement, healthcare providers, faith organizations, and local communities; and,

WHEREAS, The Town of Apex affirms the need for continued support and awareness of efforts to end human trafficking, and commits to supporting efforts both local and statewide to end these horrific injustices.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor of Apex, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the Month of January, 2025, "Human Trafficking Prevention Month" in the Town of Apex, and encourage residents to educate themselves further on Human Trafficking Prevention and volunteer with organizations like Shield NC, who work tirelessly to help remove Human Trafficking from our society.

I hereby set my hand and have caused the Seal of the Town of Apex, North Carolina, to be affixed this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of January 2025

Jacques Gilbert, Mayor