

Office of the Mayor

CITY OF MANITOWOC

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights recognizes in article 3, that everyone has the right to live, to be free and to feel safe, and in article 4, no one should be held in slavery for any reason. The buying and selling of human beings should be prevented at all times. The United States Constitution's 13th Amendment prohibits any form of slavery, of which human trafficking constitutes; and

WHEREAS, both human trafficking and stalking pose grave, imminent physical danger to victims, perpetuates gender-based violence, and the prevalence of victimization is hidden under additional criminal allusion; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin identified 146 victims of human trafficking in 2019; and there are approximately 108,000 internationally. Wisconsin is recognized as a state struggling to identify and provide aid to victim survivors of human trafficking. Estimates of stalking victimization concur that there are millions of stalking victims within the United States alone; and

WHEREAS, both crimes leave victim survivors vulnerable and isolated from public and social institutions aimed for protection and service. The nature of human trafficking continues to evolve despite prevention efforts; and

WHEREAS, children, teens, and emerging adults recognize stalking tactics and behaviors as an issue prevalent within their social world as nearly half of all teens within the United States have experienced at least one form of stalking behaviors; and

WHEREAS, the inclusions of public education and consciousness of common human trafficking and stalking signs, behaviors, and tactics in addition to awareness and promotion of local agencies and services for victim survivors of human trafficking and stalking, ensures that Manitowoc County is a community that is actively involved in prevention and educational efforts.

WHEREAS, community leaders, businesses, and organizations within Manitowoc County can ensure public awareness by recognizing the necessity of early education and intervention on human trafficking and stalking.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUSTIN M. NICKELS, Mayor of the City of Manitowoc, do hereby proclaim the month of January 2021 as

Human Trafficking and Stalking Prevention Month

in the City of Manitowoc and encourage all citizens to join InCourage in a collaborative effort to recognize the need for community support and advocacy for survivors of human trafficking and stalking.



In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Manitowoc to be affixed. Done at City Hall in the City of Manitowoc this 18th day of January, Twenty Twenty-One.

Justin M. Nickels, Mayor