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**Mayor Jerry Weiers Proclaims January Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Glendale**

Glendale Mayor Jerry Weiers is calling on his fellow mayors across the state to join him in raising awareness about the horrors of human trafficking. Mayor Weiers along with Glendale's City Council proclaimed January Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Month at this week's Council meeting.

Mayor Weiers presented the proclamation to members of the Glendale Police Department and their partners in the faith and social service sectors, who are actively engaged in combatting what has become a scourge in communities across the nation.

"I was surprised to discover that only eleven cities have adopted an anti-human trafficking declaration in Arizona. As leaders in a border state, we are, or should be, fully aware that human trafficking is placing a great burden on our social service structures, but it is the plight of victims that should prompt us to act decisively," stated Mayor Weiers.

"We all have an obligation to protect the vulnerable from predators. As a result, as part of the proclamation we passed, I urged 'our residents and partners to work together to eliminate trafficking from our community and support the efforts of front-line organizations and law enforcement in their battle against human trafficking and to take a stand and say not in our city,'" stated Mayor Weiers.

As Stacey Sutherland with the Arizona Anti-Trafficking Network stated during the presentation of the proclamation, when thanking the Council for taking action, "Not one person, agency, or organization can help combat this crime alone."

As our proclamation notes:

- the United States has some of the highest rates globally for human trafficking
- the [International Labor Organization](#) estimates that 40.3 million men, women and children are subjected to human trafficking per year
- the Human Trafficking Institute estimates in their [2019 Federal report](#) that 51.6% of the human trafficking active cases in the US were sex trafficking cases involving children

**Background:**

January is Human Trafficking Prevention Month, a presidentially designated observance.

Not In Our City is a Community-Centered Coalition United Against Human Trafficking in Arizona. The organization's mission is "to see all 91 City Jurisdictions in the State of Arizona commit to meeting the needs of the community by affecting and enforcing strict policies to prevent Human Trafficking and proclaim January as Anti-Human Trafficking Month."

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