

**A PROCLAMATION of the Board of Aldermen of St. Lucie Village, Florida,
Recognizing January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month**

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery in which human beings are controlled, abused, and exploited for profit through labor and sex; and child sex trafficking is the fastest growing crime in the world.

WHEREAS, Children have become the primary target of traffickers and predators as reported by the Florida State Alliance to end human trafficking.

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking and Child Sexual Exploitation online is happening in our own backyards, with arrests documented in the Treasure Coast this year. Florida ranks #3 in the nation for human trafficking hotline calls; and

WHEREAS, local agencies, organizations, businesses, schools, and leaders are connecting to bring an end to this horror of enslaving and abusing children and adults through awareness and equipping citizens to provide tips to local law enforcement. Florida Faith Alliance is providing awareness videos and curriculum for children of all ages and for teachers, to be a large part of the sweep of awareness in the Treasure Coast.

THEREFORE, The Board of Aldermen of St. Lucie Village, Florida, calls upon all residents to support the first annual Florida Faith Alliance January Awareness Presentation, to equip parents, grandparents and concerned citizens to eliminate Human Trafficking and help empower schools and citizens to recognize the signs, turn in tips, and save lives. Together we can work together to stop this travesty through awareness and education, with a long-term plan to house and restore victims.

We support Florida Faith Alliance to say, "NOT ON OUR WATCH!"

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 16th day of January, 2024.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF ST. LUCIE VILLAGE, FLORIDA



By: William Thiess, Mayor