



## PROCLAMATION

### *Supporting Increased Awareness Relating to Human Trafficking*

*Whereas, human trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery involving the illegal trade of people for exploitation or commercial gain; and*

*Whereas, every year, millions of men, women and children are trafficked in countries around the world, including the United States; and*

*Whereas, it is estimated that human trafficking generates billions of dollars of profit per year, second only to drug trafficking as the most profitable form of transnational crime; and*

*Whereas, human trafficking is a hidden crime as victims rarely come forward to seek help because of language barriers, fear of the traffickers, and/or fear of law enforcement; and*

*Whereas, traffickers use force, fraud, or coercion to lure their victims and force them into labor or commercial sexual exploitation. They look for people who are susceptible for a variety of reasons, including psychological or emotional vulnerability, economic hardship, lack of a social safety net, natural disasters, or political instability. The trauma caused by the traffickers can be so great that many may not identify themselves as victims or ask for help, even in highly public settings; and*

*Whereas, the United States Senate designated January 11<sup>th</sup> as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day and other organizations have designated January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month; and*

*Whereas, the Town of Chino Valley is supportive of the many efforts underway in Yavapai County, including the production of the Nursery Rhymes music video, to bring awareness to the issue of human trafficking.*

*Now, Therefore, I, Chris Marley, Mayor of the Town of Chino Valley, do hereby proclaim the Town of Chino Valley's support for increasing awareness of human trafficking.*

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Chino Valley to be affixed this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016.*



Chris Marley, Mayor

ATTEST: Jami C. Lewis, Town Clerk