

PROCLAMATION

2025 NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a public health issue and crime that harms the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities, often across generations; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking can happen to anyone, but certain populations are at greater risk, including people affected by abuse, violence, poverty, unstable living situations, social disconnection, or discrimination; and

WHEREAS, including the forced or fraudulent recruitment, harboring, or transportation of people for labor or commercial sex; and

WHEREAS, nearly 25 years since the passing of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act, an estimated 27.6 million people are subjected to human trafficking globally, including an estimated 313,000 victims in Texas, 79,000 of whom are minors and youth; and

WHEREAS, people can be trafficked in person and online; in industries such as restaurants, domestic work, construction, agriculture, and factories; and by strangers or someone they know, including employers, partners, and family members; and

WHEREAS, "Connecting the Dots, Strengthening Communities, Preventing Trafficking." Underscores the need to understand how human trafficking relates to other forms of violence and how we can prevent it by strengthening protective factors at the individual, relational, community, and societal levels; and

WHEREAS, the Women's Center of East Texas is dedicated to ensuring anyone impacted by human trafficking can receive services that provide individualized care, understand the impact of trauma, and incorporate cultural and linguistic needs; and

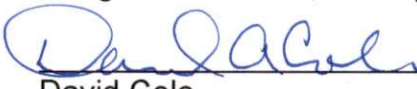
WHEREAS, every individual, family, community, and organization can contribute to enhancing human trafficking awareness, prevention, and response by learning about ways to help; and


NOW, THEREFORE, the Commissioners' Court of Panola County, Texas does hereby proclaim the month of January 2025 to be HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH in Panola County.


Signed this 14th day of January,


Rodger G. McLane, County Judge

Absent
Billy Alexander
Commissioner, Precinct 1


David Cole
Commissioner, Precinct 2


Craig M. Lawless
Commissioner, Precinct 3


Dale LaGrone
Commissioner, Precinct 4

ATTEST:


Bobbie Davis, County Clerk

