PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking Awareness Month was established in

January 2011 to proclaim the equality and freedom inherent to all people, to advocate for legislation and protections for survivors, to educate leaders, and to encourage public awareness

and action against various forms of human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, today, millions of men, women, and children are forced into

domestic servitude, forced labor, and the sex industry; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking can affect anyone, regardless of race, religion,

occupation, educational level, culture, socio-economic status or

sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, people of color and those made vulnerable through socio-

economic barriers are disproportionately affected; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle invests in a comprehensive network of social

> services, and a specialized criminal justice response to human trafficking that addresses the needs of survivors and holds

perpetrators accountable for their actions; and

WHEREAS, Seattle is striving to become a place where human trafficking

> does not exist, where people have opportunities available to them so as not to fall into financial vulnerability, and where all people are treated as fully human and worthy of fair pay, safe working

conditions, and freedom;

NOW, THEREFORE I, EDWARD B. MURRAY, MAYOR OF SEATTLE, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM, JANUARY 2016, TO BE

Human Trafficking Awareness Month

Mayor Edward B. Murray

City of Seattle