

# PROCLAMATION

## BOROUGH OF RED BANK

### Human Rights Month – 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

WHEREAS, the 75th anniversary of Human Rights Month marks a significant milestone in the global movement for justice and equality. It is an opportunity to reflect on the progress made over the past decades and acknowledge the challenges that still remain. This anniversary reminds us of the enduring importance of human rights and their role in shaping a just and inclusive society.

Reflecting on the past 75 years of the human rights movement, it is evident that significant progress has been made. During this period, we have seen the dismantling of discriminatory laws, the advancement of civil rights, and the recognition of the inherent dignity and worth of every individual. Through the tireless efforts of activists, advocates, and grassroots organizations, countless lives have been positively impacted, and oppressive systems have been challenged.

Despite the significant achievements made in the past seven decades, it is essential to acknowledge that the work is far from over. Discrimination, inequality, and human rights violations persist in many forms across the globe. Eradicating these deeply ingrained prejudices requires a collective effort to challenge and change societal norms and attitudes.

In 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was adopted by the United Nations (UN). This groundbreaking document recognized the fundamental rights and freedoms to which all individuals are entitled, regardless of their race, gender, religion, or any other characteristic. Civil rights movements across the world have fought for and secured legislative changes that ensure equal protection and opportunities for marginalized communities. From the ending of apartheid in South Africa to the legalization of same-sex marriage in numerous countries, these victories represent the power of collective solidarity and the tireless pursuit of justice.

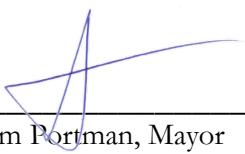
The human rights movement has seen gains in the recognition and protection of vulnerable populations. Efforts to advance women's rights have resulted in the establishment of laws and policies that protect against discrimination, violence, and gender-based inequalities. The rights of children have also been prioritized, leading to broad advancements in education, healthcare, and protection from exploitation. Indigenous communities have fought for recognition and preservation of their culture, land, and self-determination, leading to important strides in the recognition of their rights and the need for inclusive policies.

In celebration of the 75th anniversary of Human Rights Month, we proclaim our commitment to upholding the fundamental rights and dignity of every individual. Human rights are the bedrock of a just and equitable society, and it is our duty to protect and promote these rights for all. As we reflect on the progress made and the challenges that persist, let us come together to renew our dedication to the principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, William Portman, Mayor of the Borough of Red Bank, on behalf of the Council and citizenry of Red Bank, do hereby proclaim December 10, 2023, as Human Rights Day and December 2023, as Human Rights Month. I call upon the people of Red Bank to join us as we honor the past, address the present, and envision a future where human rights are universally respected and upheld.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Borough of Red Bank to be affixed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.



  
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William Portman, Mayor