

Proclamation

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

WHEREAS, the Holocaust, Yom Hashoah, is the Day of Remembrance for the genocide extinguishing the lives of approximately six million Jews and five million additional people that included those with disabilities, racial minorities, LGBTQI+, political dissidents, the Roma, the Sinti, the Slavs, as well as, those who worked to protect others, who were killed or endured abuse by the Nazis regime and their collaborators; and,

WHEREAS, in 1980 the United States Congress established the Days of Remembrance as the nation's annual commemoration of the Holocaust. This year Yom Hashoah is April 24, it is the time set aside to honor all the victims, survivors, and liberators, and as a reflection on the importance of dignity and respect for all persons; and,

WHEREAS, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly passed a resolution in November 2005 to designate the 27th of January as the International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust; and to mark the anniversaries of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp and to honor the victims and survivors of the Holocaust; and,

WHEREAS, in solidarity with the UN International Holocaust Remembrance Day and the 80th Anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp, Carrboro designates and honors Monday, January 27, 2025, as the International Holocaust Remembrance Day; and,

WHEREAS, in this time of increased antisemitism and Holocaust denial we must be more vigilant. With our official commemoration of the International Holocaust Remembrance Day and the victims of the Nazi regime, we promote Holocaust education throughout the world. It is imperative to affirmatively speak out and oppose hatred and actions to attack, murder, or commit other heinous acts against people because of their religion, race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, disabilities or other qualities of their personhood.

WHEREAS, to quote and paraphrase Colorado Governor Jared Polis, "in a time when we cannot take our democracy or the rule of law for granted, we should be increasingly alert to threats against minority communities; and,

WHEREAS, we echo the words of Kofi Annan, former Secretary General of the United Nations, who warned: "A genocide begins with the killing of one man (person) – not for what he (they) has (had) done, but because of who he is (they are);" and,

WHEREAS, the International Holocaust Remembrance Day has been set aside for the people of the Town of Carrboro to join together as a community to remember the victims of the Holocaust, as well as to reflect on the need for respect and non-discriminatory allyship of all peoples and to overcome intolerance and indifference through learning and remembrance.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Barbara M. Foushee, Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby declare January 27, 2025, as International Holocaust Remembrance Day in the Town of Carrboro and encourage all community members to reflect on this day of remembrance.

This the 21st day of January, 2025.

B.M. Foushee
Barbara M. Foushee

