Resolution declaring the week of January 22, 2024 National Gun Violence Survivors Week and honoring all victims and survivors of gun violence and uplifting the resilient voices of survivors across the nation

Whereas every year, more than 43,000 Americans are killed with guns, approximately 76,000 more are shot and wounded, and countless others experience the collective trauma of gun violence;

Whereas on average Michigan has the 25th highest rate of gun deaths in the US and the 19th highest rate of gun injuries in the US;

Whereas Michigan has the 36th highest rate of gun suicide deaths in the US and 56% of gun deaths in Michigan are by firearm suicide;

Whereas firearms are the leading cause of death for children and teens with an average of 103 children and teens dying by guns every year in Michigan, of which 31% are suicides and 64% are homicides;

Whereas gun violence costs Michigan $16.8 billion each year, of which $380.5 million is paid by taxpayers;

Whereas 59% of adults in America, including 71% of Black and 60% of Latinx Americans, or someone they care about has experienced gun violence in their lifetime, demonstrating the reach and impact gun violence has in communities across America;

Whereas in advance of early February, when more Americans are killed with guns than are killed in our peer countries in an entire calendar year;

Whereas a gun violence survivor is anyone who has personally experienced gun violence whether firsthand or not;

Whereas forms of gun violence can include, but are not limited to: gun suicides, gun homicides, domestic violence involving a gun, mass shootings and unintentional shootings;

Whereas people in America, in cities across the nation are working to end the senseless violence by advocating for common sense gun safety legislation;

Whereas by commemorating National Gun Violence Survivors Week on January 22 to January 26, communities across America will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives stolen by gun violence; and

Whereas we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the hands of those who are a danger to themselves or others and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our communities safe; now, therefore be it;

Resolved the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton declares January 22 to January 26, 2024 National Gun Violence Survivors Week and encourages all citizens to support efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor human lives.