

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, Hemophilia is a rare, typically inherited disorder in which the blood does not clot normally due to the lack of a clotting protein factor, and it creates excessive bleeding externally and internally after an injury or damage to the body; and

WHEREAS, normally occurring in males and passed down from parents to children, all races and ethnic groups are affected with approximately 20,000 individuals with the disorder living in the United States, and while treatment can help, the condition is not yet curable, and symptoms include unexplained and excessive bleeding, large or deep bruises, pain in joints, and unexplained nosebleeds; and

WHEREAS, a hemophiliac has little or no clotting factor and suffers from excessive bleeding and is easily bruised, and treatment includes injecting the missing clotting factor, manufactured from human plasma or through recombinant biotechnology, into the bloodstream either on a regular basis, in anticipation of a surgical or dental procedure, or when bleeding occurs; and

WHEREAS, the *World Federation of Hemophilia* (WFH) was established in 1963 by Frank Schnabel to improve treatment and care for hemophiliacs worldwide, and the organization established the month of March as **Hemophilia Awareness Month** to bring to light globally about this serious condition and to find ways to assist hemophiliacs, and the organization also created **World Hemophilia Day** held each April 17th, in recognition of the founder, Frank Schnabel's birthday; and

WHEREAS, the *National Hemophilia Foundation* (NHF) is dedicated to finding better treatments and cures for inheritable bleeding disorders and in preventing the complications of these disorders through education, advocacy and research, and locally, the *Hemophilia Foundation of Greater Florida* supports the bleeding disorder community throughout the state and its mission is to improve the quality of life for people with the condition and their families through education, information and referral services, advocacy and research; and

WHEREAS, to bring awareness to the Tampa Bay community and in recognition of World Hemophilia Day, the Hemophilia Foundation of Greater Florida is hosting a **Tampa Superhero Fun Walk** on Sunday, April 7, 2019, with proceeds benefitting the bleeding disorders community by supporting a medically supervised camp, awarding scholarships and emergency financial assistance, and providing legislative advocacy opportunities and educational programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, April 17, 2019 as

“WORLD HEMOPHILIA DAY”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all citizens to increase their understanding and awareness of this serious disorder, and thank the efforts of health care professionals and hemophilia organizations for their dedication in the care and support of hemophiliacs worldwide, and for their commitment to improved treatments and ultimately, a cure.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 20th day of March, 2019.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor