

# Proclamation



*Jane Castor, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, assistive technology may be defined as any item, piece of equipment, or product system that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of people with disabilities and older adults; and

**WHEREAS**, people of all ages with disabilities and senior citizens may need assistive technology and related services to improve or permit them to work, attend school, play, and live in the community of their choice and thereby enhancing their quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, assistive technology devices and service are not luxury items, but necessary and valuable tools that allow for those with disabilities to realize access and inclusiveness within their communities, classrooms, and workplaces, and it provides opportunities for older adults to age in place and retain their independence; and

**WHEREAS**, all individuals have the right to excel, accomplish their goals and aspirations, and be proud of who they are, and assistive technology helps serve people with disabilities and older adults with the support and tools necessary to succeed, and have their contributions to the community appreciated; and

**WHEREAS**, National Assistive Technology Awareness Day was established to spread awareness about assistive technology and its role in improving the lives of Americans with disabilities and older adults, and to recognize the valued service and contributions of dedicated organizations, assistive technology specialists, program coordinators, and others; and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST), a member of the national Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs organization, has been a leader in assistive technology services in the state of Florida for nearly thirty years through its five Reutilization Centers and twelve regional demonstration centers, including Tampa General Hospital serving Hillsborough, Manatee and Pinellas Counties.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, April 6, 2022, as

## ***“NATIONAL ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY AWARENESS DAY”***

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in supporting and encouraging inclusiveness in our beautifully diverse community and in thanking organizations such as FAAST, specialists, coordinators, and additional professionals for their efforts on behalf of others that helps that allows for enhanced happiness health, and independence.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April 2022.



*Jane Castor*  
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Mayor