

Proclamation

The seal of the City of Tampa, Florida, featuring a ship on the water, surrounded by the text "CITY OF TAMPA, FLORIDA" and "ORGANIZED JULY 15, 1887".

Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, generally, infertility is defined as the inability to conceive after one year or longer of unprotected sex, and the World Health Organization (WHO) and the American Medical Association (AMA) define infertility as a disease; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one in eight couples experience difficulties getting pregnant or sustaining a pregnancy with infertility affecting both women and men, and fertility declines with age and the effect of age is greater among women; and

WHEREAS, infertility does not discriminate based on race, religion, sexual orientation, marital status or socioeconomic levels, and people who experience challenges in their journey in establishing a family should have access to all family building options including adoption, medical treatment such as in vitro fertilization (IVF), and third-party reproduction, and often barriers to access include lack of health insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS, the **RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association (RESOLVE)**, founded in 1974, is dedicated to ensuring that all people challenged in their family building journey reach resolution through being empowered, supported by the community, and united by advocacy and inspired to act; and

WHEREAS, RESOLVE established **National Infertility Awareness Week® (NIAW)** in 1989 to empower people and change the conversation around infertility, and to *Enhance* public understanding that infertility needs and deserves attention, *Ensure* that people trying to build a family know the guidelines for seeing a specialist, and *Educate* lawmakers about how infertility impacts people in their state, and the NIAW color theme is **orange**, chosen to promote a sense of wellness and to provide an emotional energy to be shared, and this year, people will wear orange on Wednesday, April 27, 2022 in support of the National Infertility Awareness #Wearorange Campaign; and

WHEREAS, locally, the **Tampa Bay Chapter of RESOLVE** and its dedicated volunteers provide support and encouragement for those in the community who may be experiencing infertility, and the organization brings awareness and education to others about the barriers and isolation people may face.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim the week of April 24-30, 2022, as

“NATIONAL INFERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all citizens to increase their understanding of those individual and families who may be facing infertility, thank the healthcare professionals and organizations such as RESOLVE for their commitment in supporting and empowering those struggling with infertility, and wear the color **orange** on Wednesday, April 27, 2022.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 4th day of April 2022.



Jane Castor
Mayor