

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, the fifth leading cause of cancer deaths among American women, ovarian cancer affects one in 78 females of all ages, and this year, approximately 21,410 new cases are expected to be diagnosed around the country with an estimated 13,770 deaths projected; and

WHEREAS, ovarian cancer is one of the deadliest of all gynecologic cancers, yet 85 percent of the cases are not diagnosed until the advanced stages due to lack of early detection testing, and the subtlety and lack of awareness of symptoms among the patients and their doctors; and

WHEREAS, with the survival rate varying greatly depending on the stage of the diagnosis, the five-year survival rate for those diagnosed late-stage is only 45.6 percent and the early-stage survival at over 90 percent, it is imperative that we strive for improved awareness, funding for research, and promoting the education of women and physicians about the subtle symptoms and risk factors of ovarian cancer; and

WHEREAS, incorporated in 1994, **Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance** (OCRAHOPE.ORG) is the oldest and largest ovarian cancer nonprofit charity in the world with the mission of curing ovarian cancer, advocating for patients, and supporting survivors, and the organization is dedicated to saving lives and ending ovarian cancer through research, and to date has raised over \$110 million and continues to advocate for federal research funding and health policies that benefit patients and survivors; and

WHEREAS, September is nationally recognized as **Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month** and the color **teal** is utilized to promote awareness and encourage the community to display the color in recognition of this important cause, and the Tampa Bay community is supporting this initiative by lighting buildings and bridges, including the iconic Skyway Bridge on September 2-5, 2022; and

WHEREAS, locally, Tampa Bay Teal Team endeavors to bring awareness to the Tampa Bay community and raise needed funding for research, advocacy and support through its various initiatives and programs including its annual Celma Mastry Ovarian Cancer Foundation's **One Step Closer to the Cure** walk/run event on Saturday, September 24, 2022, and during the month of September, nearly fifty businesses, recreation centers and more will promote Ovarian Cancer awareness and share lifesaving information, and the City of Tampa is pleased to join the organization, sponsors, and volunteers in promoting this important awareness campaign.

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 month of September 2022 as

"OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to take part in activities which will raise awareness about the symptoms and diagnostic tools available for this disease, and display and wear the color **teal** throughout the month of September to bring attention to ovarian cancer and the vital need for a cure.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 25th day of August, 2022.



Jane Castor

Mayor