

# Proclamation



*Jane Castor, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, considered rare, Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM) is a chronic cardiac disease involving thickening of the heart muscle which can lead to symptoms such as chest pain, shortness of breath, palpitations, fainting, and fatigue, and it is the most common inheritable heart disease that can potentially lead to debilitating symptoms and serious complications; and

**WHEREAS**, Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy can cause heart failure, atrial fibrillation, stroke, and in rare cases, sudden cardiac death, and it can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, race, or ethnicity, and treatments include surgery, an implantable device, or medications; and

**WHEREAS**, an estimated 700,000 to 1,650,000 individuals in the United States have HCM, yet 85 percent may be undiagnosed, often due to it sharing the same symptoms with other common cardiovascular and pulmonary diseases, making distinguishing it difficult; and

**WHEREAS**, to assist in receiving an accurate diagnosis that may lead to early medical care, it is vital people are aware of the symptoms and signs of HCM and in knowing one's family health history, and statistics show there are disparities and gaps in care for Black and female patients diagnosed with the disease, and young athletes face increased risks and is the most common cause of cardiac death in young people and competitive athletes in North America; and

**WHEREAS**, organizations such as the Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Association (HCMA) whose mission is to support advocacy and education to patients, families, the medical community, and the public while supporting research and fostering the development of treatments, and Bristol Meyers Squibb known for its dedication to biological and pharmaceutical research, are committed to the improved health and quality of life of those affected with HCM; and

**WHEREAS**, **Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Awareness Day** is annually held on the fourth Wednesday in February, and it promotes education, understanding, and awareness regarding HCM with a mission of encouraging individuals to be familiar with their family history and the signs and symptoms of the disease, and this year it is held on Wednesday, February 22, 2023, featuring the theme ***Find it in Your Heart***.

**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 Wednesday, February 22, 2023, as

## **“HYPERTROPHIC CARDIOMYOPATHY AWARENESS DAY”**

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all citizens to increase their understanding and awareness of this serious disease and thank the efforts of health care professionals and organizations for their dedication to the well-being of the citizens of our nation.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of February 2023.



*Jane Castor*  
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Mayor