

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, considered rare, bleeding disorders that include hemophilia A (factor VII deficiency), hemophilia B (factor IX deficiency), and von Willebrand disease are characterized by the blood not clotting normally due to the lack of a clotting proteins, also known as clotting factors; and

WHEREAS, while hemophilia is more common in men, von Willebrand disease (VWD) affects both men and women equally, and in the United States, approximately 30,000 to 33,000 individuals live with hemophilia, with up to one percent of the population affected by VWD, and while treatment can help, these conditions are not yet curable; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of a bleeding disorder include unexplained and excessive bleeding, large or deep bruising, nosebleeds, and bleeding into joints, muscles, and soft tissues, and if someone has a bleeding disorder, they may have extended bleeding with incidences such as an injury or trauma, menstruation, surgery, or dental procedures; and

WHEREAS, statistics show that care provided by federally funded Hemophilia Treatment Centers (HTC) increase health outcomes so patients with bleeding disorders can live a better quality of life, and there are 147 federally funded HTC nationwide including three locally in the Tampa, Florida community; and

WHEREAS, established in 1948, the *National Hemophilia Foundation* (NHF) is an organization for all people with bleeding disorders and is dedicated to its mission of finding better treatments and cures and in preventing the complications of these disorders, and they offer outstanding programs such as medically supervised camps, scholarships, advocacy efforts, emergency financial assistance, and more; and

WHEREAS, the *Hemophilia Foundation of Greater Florida*, founded in 1996, 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, support, and research, and annually the organization brings awareness to the community and raises needed funding for research and support services.

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 March 2023 as

“BLEEDING DISORDERS AWARENESS MONTH”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all citizens to increase their understanding, awareness, and compassion of these serious bleeding disorders and thank the efforts of health care professionals and the National and Greater Florida Hemophilia Foundation organizations for their dedication, and for their commitment to improved treatments and ultimately, a cure.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 8th day of February 2023.



Jane Castor
Mayor