

# Proclamation



*Jane Castor, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, annually, November 18<sup>th</sup> is designated as **National Injury Prevention Day**, created to raise awareness about the burden of injury and violence and the need for change, and it is dedicated to educating and empowering communities to make a difference in reducing injuries and deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, injuries and violence are the leading cause of death and disabilities for ages one to 44 years old, with 33 children dying every day from preventable injuries, and locally, over 550 children were admitted to Tampa General Children's Hospital in 2022 because of serious traumatic injury, sadly an increase from the previous year; and

**WHEREAS**, preventable injuries are tragic and devastating to children and their families, and reducing the incidences of childhood injuries are of the utmost importance to communities across our nation, and **National Injury Prevention Day** brings public awareness about the causes of these injuries and how to prevent them; and

**WHEREAS**, cities across the nation, including Tampa, Florida, are working to end preventable injuries and deaths with evidence-based campaigns and educational information for the community, and on National Injury Prevention Day, they will "**Shine a Green Light**" to bring awareness to this important initiative; and

**WHEREAS**, Tampa General Children's Hospital is affecting change in the community by becoming a "**Hit Free Zone**" hospital whereby establishing a zero tolerance of hitting of any kind, and the hospital has joined with other hospitals who have created and reinforced an environment of comfort and safety for pediatric patients and their families while advocating for the most important people in our community – the children; and

**WHEREAS**, Tampa General Hospital is a member of the Injury Free Coalition for Kids, a leading and effective injury and violence prevention organization whose mission includes preventing injury to children, and it is comprised of hospital-based, community-oriented programs whose efforts are anchored in research, education, and advocacy; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 18, 2023, Tampa General Children's Hospital, a Level 1 pediatric trauma center and the first in Florida to achieve verification from the American College of Surgeons, will join with the Injury Free Coalition for Kids as a local partner and other organizations to push for change and bring awareness to empower communities to make a difference.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Saturday, November 18, 2023, as

## **NATIONAL INJURY PREVENTION DAY**

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join the efforts of Tampa General Children's Hospital and organizations such as Injury Free Coalition for Kids in their commitment to raise public awareness and become educated on injury preventative measures to save lives and trauma, especially among vulnerable children.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of November 2023.



*Jane Castor*  
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Mayor