

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, one of the most meaningful gifts that a human being can bestow upon another is the Gift of Life, and nationally, April has been designated as **National Donate Life Month** to recognize organ and tissue donors, and bring awareness to the miracle of transplantation; and

WHEREAS, a record number, 46,630 Americans receive a lifesaving organ transplant in 2023, thanks to the generosity of more than 23,280 deceased and living donors, and over 103,000 men, women and children are currently on the national waiting list for organ transplantation, with over 5,100 of those residing in the state of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the need for organ, eye, and tissue donation remains critical as a new patient is added to the national patient waiting list for an organ transplant approximately every 82 minutes, and each day, roughly 172 people die awaiting an organ transplant that did not arrive in time; and

WHEREAS, just one organ, tissue, and eye donor can save eight lives and can enhance the lives of as many as 75 individuals, profoundly impacting each recipient and bringing a renewed quality of life and joy to them and their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, everyone is a potential organ, tissue, and eye donor regardless of age, race, or medical history, and in the state of Florida, over 11 million individuals have already registered their decision to give the Gift of Life by organ and tissue donation through Florida's Organ and Tissue Donor Registry at the www.DonateLifeFlorida.org website, or on their driver's license or state identification card; and

WHEREAS, **LifeLink Foundation of Tampa**, with its motto *Countless Lives Transformed*, is an independent, non-profit organ and tissue recovery organization dedicated to serving patients in need of transplant therapy and their families, honoring donors, and saving lives through organ and tissue transplant, and its values include *Compassion, Excellence, Legacy, People, and Quality*, and the City of Tampa supports and applauds its lifesaving and impactful mission.

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 April 2024 as

"NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, in honor of all those who have made the decision to give life, to focus attention on the extreme need for organ donation and to encourage all Tampa Bay residents to consider giving life through organ donation by signing up on the Florida's Organ and Tissue Donor Registry.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 22nd day of March 2024.



Jane Castor

Mayor