

# Proclamation



*Pam Iorio, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, The Centre for Women, originally known as The Women's Survival Center, was founded in 1977 by a group of amazing volunteers, led by The Honorable Helen Gordon Davis, who were concerned about the lack of services to help women in major life transitions and emotional turmoil who needed employment and supportive services; and

**WHEREAS**, The Centre for Women created the first Displaced Homemaker and Employment Program in Tampa and Hillsborough County which has helped countless women regain their self-esteem, independence and confidence so that they could develop the internal strength to move ahead with their lives, enter the workplace, and take care of their families and themselves; and

**WHEREAS**, by forging strong partnerships with other organizations, funders and supporters over the past 33 years, The Centre for Women has responded to critical community needs by adding and expanding services to help women, girls, families and seniors citizens. These services include: Success Strategies that helps women prepare for and secure employment; the Senior Home Improvement Program, known as SHIP (1980), that performs major home repairs for low-income seniors; Project Recovery (1980), the first women-only substance abuse treatment program in Hillsborough County; The Centre for Girls (2001), which offers innovative programming in a safe, positive place for girls to go when school is not in session; Family Services (2000), which provides affordable individual, marriage and family counseling; ElderLink (1999), which utilizes volunteers to provide chore services for low-income seniors; BRITE (2008), a State research project that provides free assessments and education to older adults about medication misuse; and AfterHours (2010), a treatment program for men and women that is offered during evening hours; and

**WHEREAS**, all of these programs represent The Centre for Women's original ideals of promoting self-sufficiency and independence by providing significant services that have improved the lives of over 60,000 women, girls, men, families and seniors in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, to recognize and show dedication to those served by The Centre for Women's wide range of services, and to preserve its history and excellent reputation, the Board of Directors voted to shorten the organization's name to The Centre, with the tagline – Hope. Knowledge. Peace of Mind -- which echoes its mission. To celebrate The Centre's new name and renew its commitment to all the individuals served, to express gratitude to supporters, and to illustrate its impact throughout our community, an official reception is being hosted by the Board and staff on Wednesday, January 11, 2011.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Pam Iorio, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim January 11, 2011 as

## *"THE CENTRE DAY"*

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in congratulating the founders, Board, staff and supporters of The Centre for offering services that bring hope, knowledge and peace of mind to those in need in our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2011.



*Pam Iorio*  
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Mayor