

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, sarcoidosis is a potentially fatal inflammatory disease that can appear in almost any organ in the body. Although the lungs are affected in more than 90% of patients, the disease often attacks the heart, eyes, central nervous system, liver and kidneys; and

WHEREAS, once thought rare, sarcoidosis is now known to be common and affects people of all ages and races worldwide. The cause remains unknown and there is treatment but currently no cure. A systemic disease, it creates a variety of symptoms, occurs chronically and can cause blindness, debilitation or even death;

WHEREAS, some research shows that genetic and environmental factors may have a role in the formation of this disease with bacteria, viruses or chemicals triggering it in those with the right genetic predisposition. In the United States, it is most common in African Americans and people of European (particularly Scandinavian) descent with most studies indicating a higher disease rate for women; and

WHEREAS, the month of April, 2011 has been designated across the county and abroad in an effort to help promote sarcoidosis awareness, education, and further research efforts; and

WHEREAS, The Janine Sarcoidosis Outreach Foundation is a non-profit organization that works throughout the year on this effort while also strengthening patient/physician relationships, providing support through actual group meetings, online and via telephone, and helps empower sufferers to become advocates for themselves, thus helping patients to cope while dealing with this disease over long periods of time; and

WHEREAS, while progress has been made in understanding the symptoms and better diagnosing the disease, little is known about who is susceptible and the cause remains unclear. With increased research, discovering the cause, improving treatment and finding a cure may well be within reach; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa is pleased to join in this effort to promote the health and well-being of our citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2011 as

“SARCOIDOSIS AWARENESS MONTH”

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to help support this effort by increasing awareness of this disease and providing support to those suffering with its effects.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 1st day of April, 2011.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor