

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, the future prosperity of Hillsborough County, Florida depends on nurturing the healthy development of children five years of age and younger currently living, growing, and learning within our diverse communities; and

WHEREAS, many children with behavioral or developmental disabilities are missing vital opportunities for early detection and intervention before kindergarten, and in the United States 17 percent of children have a disability such as autism, intellectual disabilities, and Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, and many children have delays in language and other areas that may impact school readiness; and

WHEREAS, funded by the Children's Board of Hillsborough County and Hillsborough County Public Schools, with support from the Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System and Early Childhood Council of Hillsborough County, Inc., the Developmental Screening Program provides free screening to children in the Tampa area between the ages of birth to five years of age, and include key developmental domains of speech and language, hearing, vision, motor skills, and cognitive development; and

WHEREAS, research demonstrates early identification and intervention allows for mitigation of developmental delays and disabilities, and children who receive evaluation and treatment as a result of the Developmental Screening Program enter kindergarten with greater opportunities for academic success; and

WHEREAS, for the past quarter century, the Developmental Screening Program has been committed to promoting the physical, social, emotional, and mental health of young children, and continues to work collaboratively with early childhood and faith-based organizations to bring about the most positive outcomes for young children; and

WHEREAS, the Children's Board of Hillsborough County, Hillsborough County Public Schools, Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System, and Early Childhood Council of Hillsborough County, Inc. will host a celebration in recognition of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the community-based Developmental Screening Program on Wednesday, October 5, 2011.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim October 5, 2011 as

"DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING PROGRAM DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in thanking the organization for their continued efforts on behalf of our youth and in congratulating them on this monumental anniversary.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 5th day of October, 2011.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

