

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, World AIDS Day was established on December 1, 1988 to increase awareness, raise funds, fight prejudice, and improve education about Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS); and

WHEREAS, World AIDS Day continues to be an important way to celebrate the extraordinary advances made in the battle against HIV/AIDS, remember those that have lost their lives to this devastating disease, and remind people everywhere that there is still so much more that needs to be done in the fight against it; and

WHEREAS, globally, there are 37.5 million people living with HIV, including over 2 million children, and although the death rate from the disease is slowly declining, millions of people have died as a result of HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, throughout the United States, there are an estimated 1.1 million Americans living with HIV, and the state of Florida has approximately 135,000 citizens with the disease, and one out of five of those do not know it; and

WHEREAS, while scientific advances and expanded access to HIV testing, diagnosis, and treatment can help reduce transmission and prevent further suffering, it is still vital to educate the public on how they can protect themselves and others regarding this preventable disease; and

WHEREAS, the AIDS Institute, founded in Tampa, Florida is a national, not-for-profit organization, and its mission is to promote action for social change through public policy research, advocacy, and education, and the Metro Wellness and Community Centers, a comprehensive social service agency that meets the needs of those affected with HIV/AIDS, are hosting the Annual Red Ribbon Run held on December 1, 2011 at Lowry Park Zoo in Tampa, Florida to raise necessary funding and awareness.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim December 1, 2011 as

“WORLD AIDS DAY”

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and encourage citizens to increase their understanding and awareness of this disease and to offer support to the agencies and volunteers who are working on behalf of all those affected.

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



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor