

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day was established in 1999 by five national organizations and funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to increase awareness about Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), and to provide capacity building assistance to African American communities and organizations; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 1.1 million people living with HIV/AIDS in the United States including the more than 500,000 who are African American, and each year almost 20,000 African Americans in this country test positive for HIV; and

WHEREAS, across the national population overall, African Americans are likely to report having been tested for HIV, but among those that test positive the CDC data indicates that African Americans were likely to be tested late in their illness and were diagnosed with AIDS within one year; and data from a 1999-2006 national household survey found that 2 percent of African Americans in the United States ages 18-49 were HIV positive, and according to the CDC, in 2009 African American men accounted for 70% of the estimated new HIV infections among all African Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Black Leadership Commission on AIDS of Tampa Bay, an affiliate of the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS and one of the five National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day founding organizations, works to mobilize leadership to meet the challenges in the fight against HIV/AIDS and other health disparities in the Tampa Bay community and is committed to ensuring equitable allocation of resources for the African American community; and

WHEREAS, this 12th Annual National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day features a national HIV testing and treatment community mobilization initiative, with the four focal points of **Education, Testing, Involvement** and **Treatment**.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim February 7, 2012 as

“NATIONAL BLACK HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY”

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all citizens to increase their understanding and awareness of this disease and thank the Black Leadership Commission on AIDS Tampa Bay for their dedication in bringing awareness to the community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 6th day of February, 2012.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

