

# Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, since 1972 Metropolitan Ministries has served the needs of the poor and homeless in the Tampa, Florida community, as well as those in surrounding counties, by providing food, clothing, shelter and vital services; and

**WHEREAS**, Metropolitan Ministries is committed to reaching out to those individuals and families with compassion and hope, and is dedicated to the goals of preventing homelessness, easing hunger, offering life-changing answers that lead to self-sufficiency, and providing needed support for transition back into the community; and

**WHEREAS**, a Metropolitan Ministries Social Entrepreneurship Initiative, Inside the Box Café and Catering began as a box lunch catering service in 2010 delivering executive box lunches to offices around the bay area with the proceeds used to underwrite meals for the homeless and families in need, provide training for Metropolitan Ministries residents, and to fund the Uplift U® self-sufficiency culinary school training program; and

**WHEREAS**; as an extension of the Metropolitan Ministries catering enterprise, Inside the Box Café, staffed by interns receiving on-the-job-training and supervised by graduates of Uplift U®, will officially open its storefront café in downtown Tampa with a ribbon cutting on Friday, February 17, 2012.

**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 17, 2012 as

## ***“INSIDE THE BOX CAFÉ AND CATERING DAY”***

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to participate in this day of celebration, and invite those in the Tampa Bay area to purchase a meal for themselves so that one may be provided to someone in need through Metropolitan Ministries.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2012.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor

