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Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, sponsored by Points of Light Institute, National Volunteer Week was established in 1974 and recognizes that by working together organizations have the fortitude to meet regional challenges and can accomplish many goals, encouraging citizens in their respective communities to be the center of social change; and

WHEREAS, experience has taught us that government by itself cannot solve all of the social problems and the volunteer force of over 63 million across the United States is vital to our future as a caring and productive nation, and they dedicate their time and energy in our communities helping countless non-profit organizations provide valuable and needed services; and

WHEREAS, an entire community can inspire, equip and mobilize people to take action that can change the world and the individuals and organizations that give of their resources for the benefit of others are at the center of social change, and through their generosity discover their power to make a difference; and

WHEREAS, individuals connect with local volunteering opportunities through hundreds of community service organizations such as the United Way of Tampa Bay HandsOn Network Action Centers, and through this organization more than 10,500 Tampa Bay volunteer have made a difference in the Tampa, Florida community; and

WHEREAS, during National Volunteer Week, United Way's HandsOn Tampa Bay will host a day of volunteering to benefit the men and women who have proudly served our nation by teaming up with the Veteran Affairs (VA) HealthCare System and providing the Bay Pines VA campus in Pinellas County with landscaping, revitalization of the on-site greenhouse, help with handmade greeting cards, and visiting with the veterans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim April 22 through April 28, 2012 as

"NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to get involved by volunteering and making a difference in the quality of life for others in our community.

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

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Mayor