

Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, the month of August has been named National Breastfeeding Awareness Month by the United States Breastfeeding Committee (USBC) to promote the importance of breastfeeding as the norm for infants and toddlers throughout the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, breast milk is widely acknowledged as the most complete form of nutrition for infants and is the preferred and most appropriate source for health, immunity benefits and developmental outcomes, and is associated with reduction in risk for post-neonatal death; and

**WHEREAS**, the antibodies in human milk lower the risk of various infections, fosters optimal growth, builds a foundation for life-long health and wellness, and is a proven strategy to help prevent common illnesses, effective in protecting infants from chronic and acute conditions, including future obesity; and

**WHEREAS**, breast milk is readily available and sterile, providing a calming and soothing warmth for the infant, and the act of breastfeeding builds a strong emotional bond between mother and child, and it improves maternal health long after the postpartum period, including reduced risk of osteoporosis, and breast and ovarian cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Tampa is pleased to join the United States Breastfeeding Committee and the Hillsborough County Breastfeeding Task Force in this effort to bring awareness about the importance of breastfeeding, and in support of mothers and babies in their legal right to breastfeed in any location, public or private.

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

## "NATIONAL BREASTFEEDING MONTH"

in the City of Tampa, Florida and encourage all in our community to be supportive and accepting of breastfeeding families, and recognize the value breast milk has on the overall development of a child.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 8th day of August, 2012.

