

Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, all children, whether they live with their biological family, a relative caregiver, an adoptive or foster family, deserve the same opportunities as other children to explore, grow and simply enjoy their childhood in a fun and safe environment; and

WHEREAS, approximately 3,000 children in the Tampa, Florida area are currently under the care of the Department of Children and Families and one of its Community-Based Care Partners, such as Eckerd Community Alternatives; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Children and Families, in partnership with selected foundations and community organizations, has established "Camps for Champions" to encourage the development of all children within the child welfare system through unique opportunities for learning and physical development, and the ability to interact with positive role models within the community; and

WHEREAS, in partnership with the Department of Children and Families, Wade Shows Incorporated and the Florida State Fair Authority, an instrumentality of the State of Florida, have generously donated time and resources to provide children in care another opportunity for a fun-filled experience by attending the three-day **Miles of Smiles for Kids: A Holiday Carnival of Hope** event held at the Florida State Fairgrounds on December 14, 2012; and

WHEREAS, during this free carnival for the children and their families there will be rides, games, food, autograph signing by professional athletes, Mike Sandlofer's Frontier Show, and additional entertainment and fun.

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 14, 2012 as

"MILES OF SMILES DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join me in thanking Wade Shows Incorporated, the Florida State Fair Authority, Department of Children and Families, Eckerd Community Alternatives, corporate sponsors and the dedicated volunteers for their commitment to the children in our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 13th day of December, 2012.

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Mayor