

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, one of the most meaningful gifts that a human being can bestow upon another is the gift of life; and

WHEREAS, more than 28,000 Americans receive a lifesaving organ transplant every year and more than 117,000 men, women and children are currently on the national waiting list for organ transplantation, and nearly 800 of those waiting are in the West and Southwest Florida area; and

WHEREAS, a new patient is added to the national patient waiting list for an organ transplant every 10 minutes, and an average of 19 people die every day awaiting an organ transplant that did not arrive in time; and

WHEREAS, just one organ, tissue and eye donor can save or enhance the lives of as many as 60 people; and

WHEREAS, everyone is a potential organ, eye and tissue donor and can register their wish to save lives through Florida's Organ and Tissue Donor Registry at the *DonateLifeFlorida.org* website, or on their driver license or state identification card; and

WHEREAS, LifeLink Foundation of Tampa is a non-profit community service organization dedicated to the recovery and transplantation of an increasing number of organs and tissues for transplant therapy and the City of Tampa supports their lifesaving mission.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2013, as

"DONATE LIFE MONTH"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, in honor of all those who have made the decision to give life, to focus attention on the extreme need for organ donation, and to encourage all Tampa Bay residents to consider giving life through organ donation and to sign up on Florida's Organ and Tissue Donor Registry when renewing their driver's license or state identification card.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 26th day of March, 2013.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

