

Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, older Americans, which account for over 14 percent of the total population, are strengthening our communities and the American way of life, and many are remaining in the workforce to support themselves and their families, some embarking on second careers; and

WHEREAS, older persons serve as advocates and volunteers in community service roles making a real difference in the daily lives of fellow citizens of all ages, while promoting and strengthening the American spirit of civic participation; and

WHEREAS, gifts of wisdom are bestowed by older Americans, and they share their talents, experience and accomplishments with the younger generation and strengthen the bonds between neighbors, creating a better place to live; and

WHEREAS, older Americans are owed a debt of gratitude and we must work to ensure they age with dignity, providing home and community-based services, including health promotion and preventive care programs that will enable them to live more independent and healthier lives; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme for Older American Month is "Unleash the Power of Age" signifying that today's older Americans are more productive, active and influential members of society; and

WHEREAS, the Tampa Housing Authority will honor seniors throughout its public housing communities and in the city of Tampa during the month of May as part of Older American Month with programs and special activities, including the *Annual Elder Affairs Day Celebration* on May 9, 2013 held at the Oaks at Riverview Community Center.

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 May 2013 as

"OLDER AMERICAN MONTH"

in the City of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join me in honoring and recognizing the senior citizens in our community for the many contributions they have made throughout their lives to the progress and success of our city, our state and our nation.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 29th day of April, 2013.

