

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, the **Tampa Bay Refugee Task Force** is a coalition of non-profit and governmental agencies whose mission is to assist refugees in settling, integrating and thriving through education, support and community involvement, and is dedicated to helping all refugees regardless of religious affiliation, race, age, or national origin, as they build new lives in freedom; and

WHEREAS, Florida leads the nation in the number of refugees resettled with more than 28,000 new arrivals statewide in 2012, and Hillsborough County provided federally funded services for 10,683 refugees during that same fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the Tampa, Florida area is a welcoming community for refugees, entrants and asylees who have fled their home country because of persecution or fear of persecution due to race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a group; and

WHEREAS, the Tampa Bay Refugee Task Force is joining the United Nations and the world community in commemorating World Refugee Day on June 20, 2013; and

WHEREAS, with the theme "**Real People, Real Needs**," the Tampa Bay Refugee Task Force is hosting its annual World Refugee Day event at Jefferson High School in Tampa, Florida to bring awareness to the community of the strength and courage of refugees; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa wishes to recognize the important contributions the Tampa Bay Refugee Task Force has made to our community and to extend sincere congratulations to them on the occasion of this special celebration, and a sincere welcome to all newly arrived refugees in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim June 20, 2013 as

"WORLD REFUGEE DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in expressing appreciation to all the organizations involved in this effort for their many contributions to the citizens of our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 22nd day of May, 2013.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

City of
Tampa
Florida