

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948, provides basic freedoms and rights for all people, and Article 4 of this Declaration states “No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms;” and

WHEREAS, the United States of America was founded on the principle that all people are born with an unalienable right to freedom, and liberty and human rights are fundamental; and

WHEREAS, a multi-billion dollar industry, human trafficking is modern day slavery practiced through forced labor, debt bondage, involuntary servitude, and commercial sexual exploitation, and the victims include citizens and immigrants, men, women and children; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated there are over 27 million enslaved individuals around the world, of which approximately two million are in the United States of America, and it is estimated 100,000 children around the nation are victims of child sex slavery at an average age of twelve years old; and

WHEREAS, annually, the month of January has been named **Human Trafficking Awareness Month**, with January 11th as **National Human Trafficking Awareness Day**, to bring awareness of the need for people to work together to end human trafficking through education, prevention, and prosecution, and the victims of human trafficking need support in order to escape and recover from their victimization; and

WHEREAS, the *Junior League of Tampa, Incorporated*, an organization of over 1,800 women established in 1926, committed to promoting voluntarism and improving communities, has partnered with the *Ad 2 Tampa Bay* and the *Community Campaign Against Human Trafficking* to launch **The Abolish Movement**, a multimedia marketing campaign against human trafficking that kicks off with events January 11-18, 2014, that feature community training activities, self-esteem workshops for at-risk youth, documentaries and panel discussions, and much more, with the Abolish Movement Kickoff Rally held on January 11th at Lykes Gaslight Park in downtown Tampa, Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim January 11-18, 2014 as

“THE ABOLISH MOVEMENT KICKOFF WEEK”

in the City of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join together nationally and as a global community to provide a safe haven by protecting the victims and prosecuting the traffickers, and raise awareness about human trafficking.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 11th day of January, 2014.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor