

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, established in Washington, D.C. on May 21, 1881, the **American Red Cross** was founded by Clara Barton, and it is one of the nation's oldest, most recognized humanitarian organizations providing compassionate care, both in the United States of America and internationally, when disaster and other crisis threaten; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the American Red Cross is preventing and alleviating human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors, and the fundamental principles of the American Red Cross include *Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality, Independence, Voluntary Service, and Unity*; and

WHEREAS, through its strong network of volunteers, donors and partners, the American Red Cross is always available during times of need and it aspires to turn compassion into action at home and around the globe by providing care, shelter and hope and preparing communities for disasters; and

WHEREAS, with a more than 90 percent volunteer workforce, the American Red Cross responds to nearly 70,000 disasters a year in the United States, and provides support to members and veterans of the United States Armed Forces and their families, collects and distributes safe, life-saving blood and blood products, and trains millions of people life-saving skills including first aid and water safety; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, with the assistance and dedication of more than 1,200 volunteers, the Tampa Bay Chapter of the American Red Cross responded to more than 280 local emergencies, provided nearly 5,600 services to United States military families, and trained nearly 9,300 people in life-saving skills; and

WHEREAS, March was proclaimed "American Red Cross Month" by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1943, and in honor of the efforts of those in our nation that help their communities the March 2016 theme is *Everyday Heroes*, and it is hoped that it will encourage everyone to discover their *inner hero* by giving of themselves in some way.

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 March 2016 as

"AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in thanking the volunteers, donors and supporters of the American Red Cross for all they have contributed to our community, our nation, and the world in providing a safer and more compassionate place for all.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 1st day of March, 2016.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor