

# Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, addressing the complex mental health needs of children, youth and families today is fundamental to the future of our communities and it is a critical responsibility for our nation, state and city to provide comprehensive and coordinated mental health services; and

**WHEREAS**, with approximately one in five youth suffering from mental illness, learning to recognize the early warning signs, prompt intervention and obtaining the necessary assistance and treatment gives children better opportunities to lead full and productive lives; and

**WHEREAS**, mental health treatments are effective and investment in these services and support programs are vital to the future of our youth, and studies have shown that children and young adults with mental health illness should have access to behavioral health care approaches and services including early childhood mental health consultation, wraparound services, respite care, and mobile crisis units to receive positive outcomes; and

**WHEREAS**, National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day seeks to raise awareness about the importance of children's mental health and to show that positive mental health is essential to a child's healthy development from birth; and

**WHEREAS**, the Children's Mental Health Awareness Day 2017 theme is *Partnering for Help and Hope* and it focuses on the importance of integrating behavioral health and primary care for children, youth and young adults with mental and/or substance use disorders; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Thursday, May 4, 2017 as

## **"CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY"**

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge citizens, agencies and organizations interested in meeting every child's mental health needs to unite on Children's Mental Health Awareness Day, and join me in thanking mental health professionals for their dedication to the youth in our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor

