

# Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, all children deserve strong families with mothers and fathers who are there to protect and love them, and every year hundreds of Hillsborough County, Florida families extend the gift of family to a child through adoption, providing a unique opportunity to improve children's lives and enrich the lives of adoptive parents, their families and their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 100,000 foster children in the United States of America, 750 of those in the state of Florida and 160 in Hillsborough County are currently available for adoption without an identified family to adopt them and these children, over 50 percent of them minority, include teenagers, sibling groups, and those with special needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the month of November is known as **National Adoption Month** and we recognize the compassion of adoptive and foster families and renew our pledge to finding loving and stable homes for children in need; and throughout the United States various events are planned that will offer children the opportunity for loving forever families, while encouraging others to consider the joys that come with adoption; and

**WHEREAS**, **One Church One Child of Florida**, established in 1988, is a faith-based, nonprofit organization that strives to reach out to the community to find families for children and find support for adoptive and foster families; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of National Adoption Month and to increase the awareness of the need for adoptive and foster parents, One Church Once Child of Florida in Hillsborough County is participating in **Applebee's Dining To Donate** on November 26, 2012 whereby ten percent of the diner's bill at Applebee's Restaurant located at 829 Providence Road in Brandon, Florida will be donated to Once Church Once Child towards its efforts to promote adoption.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim November 26, 2012 as

## **"NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH"**

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join in honoring the many caring families and individuals who have made a difference in a child's life through adoption, and thank One Church One Child of Florida for its commitment to the children of our communities.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2012.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor

*City of*  
**Tampa**  
Florida