

Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, *Rehabilitation Services* is a medical specialty which helps minimize physical or cognitive disabilities and serves to restore people affected by a potentially disabling disease or traumatic injury to good health and help them achieve independent, productive and fulfilling lives; and

WHEREAS, those patients requiring rehabilitative and therapeutic services rely on the dedicated professionals in the areas of physical, occupational, and recreational therapy, speech and language pathology, rehabilitation nursing, psychology, and other specialties and doctors, including Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Physicians (PM&R), to assist individuals achieve a healthy quality of life; and

WHEREAS, through the contributions of rehabilitation medicine and through the efforts of the professionals that are committed to those with limited abilities, many people from all walks of life have found hope, spirit, dignity, and renewed health through the rehabilitative services they have received; and

WHEREAS, established in 1976, National Rehabilitation Awareness Week is celebrated annually the third week in September across the United States of America, and it celebrates the power of rehabilitation, promotes its value, and helps to educate about its impact on an individual, the family and the community; and

WHEREAS, Tampa General Rehabilitation Center, located on the campus of Tampa General Hospital in Tampa, Florida and affiliated with the University of South Florida's Morsani College of Medicine, is dedicated to serving individuals with functional limitations and their caregivers by promoting optimal independence and quality of life through an interdisciplinary team approach across a continuum of care, and

WHEREAS, during the annual recognition of National Rehabilitation Awareness Week, Tampa General Rehabilitation Center will host special activities and recognize the patients and their families, and the team members of their organization including doctors, nurses, counselors, therapists and technicians.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim September 15-21, 2013 as

"NATIONAL REHABILITATION AWARENESS WEEK"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all citizens to thank the dedicated professionals in all areas of rehabilitation services for their commitment to their patients and restorative health care, and for the value they provide the citizens of the community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 30th day of August, 2013.



Tampa Mayor