

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, the National Association of *Free Clinics* are defined as a volunteer-based, safety-net health care organizations that provide a range of medical, dental, pharmacy, and behavioral health services to economically disadvantaged individuals who are predominately uninsured; and

WHEREAS, Free Clinics are community and faith based non-profit organizations that provide health care services at little or no cost to low-income patients that are uninsured or underinsured through the generosity of volunteer health care professionals and in partnerships with other health care organizations including hospitals, health departments and pharmaceutical companies; and

WHEREAS, the state of Florida has over 100 Free Clinics, the highest number of any state in the nation, and they provide cost-effective, quality care to economically disadvantaged individuals and families, thereby reducing the burden on the larger structures of America's health care system; and

WHEREAS, the **Florida Association of Free Clinics** (FAFC) was established in 2009 by the Health Council of South Florida and its mission is to provide support, mentoring, networking opportunities, and advocacy through a network that initiates collaboration and the sharing of best practices to improve access to health care for the uninsured in the state of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Association of Free Clinics provides valuable guidance and assistance to free clinic organizations, their volunteer health care professionals, partners and suppliers as they seek to maximize their potential, and the organization is focused on the strategic components of collaboration, visibility, communication, advocacy and mentoring while remaining current with changing environments and trends; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Association of Free Clinics will hold its 4th Annual Conference on September 26-27, 2013 at the DoubleTree Tampa Airport Westshore Hotel in Tampa, Florida with the theme *Embracing Healthcare Changes* and the event will include presentations, networking opportunities, breakout sessions and exhibits.

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 26, 2013 as

"FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF FREE CLINICS DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all citizens to thank the volunteer professionals, partners and suppliers for their commitment to providing quality health care through Free Clinics throughout Florida to those citizens that may be uninsured, underinsured or underserved.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 26th day of September, 2013.



City of
Tampa
Florida

Bob Buckhorn

Mayor