

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, *Occupational Therapy* (OT) is a profession concerned with promoting health and well-being through engagement in occupation or vocation and is a holistic health care profession that strives to promote health by enabling individuals to perform meaningful and purposeful activities across their lifespan; and

WHEREAS, *Occupational Therapists* are health professionals that use treatments to develop, recover, or maintain the daily living and work skills of their patients with a physical, mental or developmental condition; and

WHEREAS, the process of occupational therapy includes an individualized evaluation to determine goals, customized intervention to improve the person's ability to perform activities, and outcomes evaluation to monitor progression to meet set goals, and is a client-centered practice in which the patient has an integral part in the process; and

WHEREAS, common occupational therapy interventions include helping children with disabilities, assisting people recovering from injury to regain skills, and providing support for older adults experiencing physical and cognitive challenges, and these services are provided through hospitals, home health agencies, schools, clinics, and skilled nursing facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Student Occupational Therapy Association (SOTA) is a non-profit student organization that serves to promote professional development through education, leadership opportunities, networking, fundraising, and volunteer and social activities; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Occupational Therapy Association, established in 1977, serves as a collective body to support, develop and represent the occupational therapy profession for the advancement of the practice and to better serve the consumer, and **Occupational Therapy Month** was established in 1980, to bring awareness regarding the profession and the value therapists bring to individuals who gain in quality of life due to occupational therapy treatments; and

WHEREAS, during Occupational Therapy Month, the Florida Occupational Therapy Association, Region 9 is hosting a Forum on Thursday, April 9, 2015 at Tampa General Hospital to bring awareness to the community regarding the profession; 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 April 2015 as

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY MONTH

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in thanking occupational therapist for improving the health and well-being of our citizens through their dedicated services.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 1st day of April, 2015.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor