

# Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, founded in 2011 and launched in 2012, **Everyone Matters** is a grassroots campaign that advocates on behalf of everyone – the right to self-identity without shame, judgment, or attack, and to create an environment that reduces intolerance and fosters inclusiveness; and

**WHEREAS**, discrimination and bullying have direct effects on the physical, emotional, and mental health of individuals, and the Everyone Matters campaign is bringing schools, cities, organizations, and prominent figures together to bring awareness to the important and positive message of inclusiveness; and

**WHEREAS**, the mission of Everyone Matters is to celebrate diversity and encourage those individuals that may be affected by discrimination to take pride in their many unique attributes, and open up their hearts to themselves and others; and

**WHEREAS**, the main messages of the **Everyone Matters Campaign** is allowing others to be *who they are* and taking pride in *who we are*, and to join together and create one unified voice advocating for the belief that each of us is unique, and to embrace such uniqueness through projects sponsored by the Everyone Matters Campaign, beginning with declaring April 2, 2015, a day to take pride in one's self and others; and

**WHEREAS**, in celebration of Everyone Matters Day, events will take place around the United States and globally, including a reception on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. to introduce Everyone Matters to the members of Congress, the *#LAM Project* that allows people the opportunity to make a personal statement, and approximately 150 schools nationwide will participate in activities including an *Everyone Matters Tree*, *Kindness Matters Week*, *Celebrating Individuality at Lunch Program*, and the *24-Hour Challenge* to not judge in thought or action; and

**WHEREAS**, Tampa is honored to join in such a cause that values the dignity and respect of every individual regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, creed, or any other distinguishing feature.

**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, April 2, 2015 as

## **“EVERYONE MATTERS DAY”**

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all citizens to join me in embracing ourselves and each other, and fostering an environment of inclusion and tolerance.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2015.



City of  
**Tampa**  
Florida

Bob Buckhorn

Mayor