

# Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, anaphylaxis is a potentially severe or life-threatening allergic reaction that can be triggered by an allergy to a particular food, insect sting, medication, latex, or other causes; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated up to 15 million Americans have food allergies, affecting one in every 13 children, and this potentially deadly disease has been increasing in numbers over the years, and the United States Centers for Disease Control has reported more than 300,000 annual ambulatory-care visits among children are food allergy related; and

**WHEREAS**, a reaction to food can range from a mild response to anaphylaxis, a severe or fatal reaction, and eight foods account for 90% of all food-allergic reactions in the United States, even in minuscule trace amounts, – milk, eggs, peanuts, tree nuts (e.g., walnuts, almonds, cashews, pistachios, and pecans), wheat, soy, fish, and shellfish; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no cure for anaphylaxis and food allergy, so strict avoidance of the food allergen is the best preventative measure, and the most effective defense when a reaction does occur is epinephrine, a self-injectable medication which should be administered at the first sign of an allergic reaction to be effective; and

**WHEREAS**, established in 2012 as a result of a merger between the Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network and the Food Allergy Initiative, **Food Allergy Research & Education (FARE)** is a leading national organization working on behalf of those with food allergies, including those at risk for life-threatening anaphylaxis; and

**WHEREAS**, FARE works to advance vital food allergy research and promotes education, advocacy and awareness, and its mission is to improve the quality of *life* and the *health* of individuals with food allergies, and to provide them with *hope*; and

**WHEREAS**, the FARE Southeast Office is hosting the **FARE Walk for Food Allergy** on Saturday, November 7, 2015 at Lowry Park in Tampa, Florida, joining over sixty communities across the United States to benefit food allergy research and education, featuring the national theme ***Help Us Say FAREwell to Food Allergies***.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Saturday, November 7, 2015 as

## ***“FARE Walk for Food Allergy Day”***

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join together in support of this awareness initiative and all those in our community living with food allergies.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 14<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2015.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor

