

# Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS, Perinatal Mental Health**, the period from when pregnancy begins to the first year after the baby is born, is about the emotional well-being of pregnant women and their child, partner and families, and it is a major concern to mothers, fathers, infants, families and healthcare providers; and

**WHEREAS**, a major mental health condition, approximately one in seven new mothers experience postnatal mental health complications, and the most common concern is depression occurring in the first few weeks and up to the first year after the birth of her child; and

**WHEREAS**, although many women and men are not screened or treated for perinatal disorders including depression and anxiety, it can be treatable with timely therapeutic interventions, community-based supportive services, and medications; and

**WHEREAS**, perinatal mood and anxiety disorders affect families of all races, income levels, ages and backgrounds, and increased education and heightened awareness of the incidences of perinatal mood and anxiety disorders is critical in order to impact positive developmental and behavioral outcomes for women, children and families; and

**WHEREAS**, The Seventh Mom Project, Inc., named for the one in seven new mothers' statistic, is a non-profit perinatal mental health organization with the mission of strengthening families struggling with perinatal distress disorders through community education, collaboration with medical professionals, and establishing a network of peer-to-peer support; and

**WHEREAS**, during **Perinatal Mental Health Week**, The Seventh Mom Project is hosting a special screening of the film *Dark Side of the Full Moon* and a panel discussion at Tampa General Hospital on Tuesday, May 3, 2016 to bring awareness to the Tampa Bay area and the medical community about the importance of effective screening and vital treatment for the 1.3 million mothers in the United States affected each year.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 1-7, 2016 as

## ***“PERINATAL MENTAL HEALTH WEEK”***

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join me in recognizing in importance of public awareness and community support for perinatal mental health that impacts many families in our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor

