

# Proclamation



*Bob Buckhorn, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, older Americans, those 65 years and older, account for more than 14 percent of the total population and approximately one in seven Americans, and they are trailblazers who have paved the way for future generations while leading by example and offering the benefits of the lessons learned from their life experiences and contributions; and

**WHEREAS**, older persons serve as advocates and mentors, and they volunteer in community service roles making a real difference in the daily lives of fellow citizens of all ages, while promoting and strengthening the American spirit of civic participation; and

**WHEREAS**, gifts of wisdom are bestowed by older Americans, and they share their talents, experience and accomplishments with the younger generation and strengthen the bonds between neighbors, creating a better place to live; and

**WHEREAS**, older Americans are owed a debt of gratitude and we must work to ensure they age with dignity, providing home and community-based services, including health promotion, safety measures and preventive care programs that will enable them to live more independent, and higher quality lives; and

**WHEREAS**, **Older American Month** was established in 1963 by the late President John F. Kennedy, and the 2016 theme set by the Administration on Community Living Resources is ***Blaze a Trail***, which highlights the ways that older Americans are advocating for themselves, their peers, and their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the **Tampa Housing Authority** in Tampa, Florida plays a vital role in providing valued services for the older Americans throughout its housing communities and is committed to assisting them live longer, healthier lives, helping them to thrive, and in bringing awareness to the community about issues they face; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tampa Housing Authority will host an ***Older Americans Month Celebration*** on May 12, 2016 at the Oaks at Riverview in honor and celebration of its residents and all older citizens in the Tampa Bay area who have blazed trails, set examples and inspire all of us.

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

## ***“OLDER AMERICAN MONTH”***

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join me in honoring and recognizing the senior citizens in our community for the many contributions they make, and have made throughout their lives to the progress and success of our city, our state, and our nation.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor

