

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, establishing a network of peer-to-peer support, and continuing to provide needed services to families; and

WHEREAS, during **Perinatal Mental Health Week**, The Seventh Mom Project is featuring its theme ***April Showers Bring May Flowers***, promoting its ***#holdtheumbrella*** campaign, and participating in ***Give Day Tampa Bay*** on May 2, 2017 to raise awareness and needed funding.

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, 2017 as

“PERINATAL MENTAL HEALTH WEEK”

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

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 26th day of April, 2017.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

