

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, older Americans, which account for approximately 14.5 percent of the total population, strengthen our communities and the American way of life, provide gifts of wisdom, and they share life experiences with the generations who follow them; and

WHEREAS, a Corporation for National and Community Service program, **Senior Corps** provides service opportunities for American men and women age 55 and over by connecting them with people and organizations throughout communities in all states across the nation, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands through national programs – Foster Grandparents, RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program), and Senior Companions, and annually, almost 330,000 senior Americans serve their communities and enhance the quality of life for others; and

WHEREAS, *Foster Grandparents* are role models, mentors and friends to children with exceptional needs, providing comfort and love, and they help young people to read, mentor troubled teenagers and young mothers, care for premature infants or children with disabilities, and assist those children who have been abused or neglected; and

WHEREAS, the *RSVP* initiative is one of the largest volunteer networks in the nation for people 55 and older and it utilizes the experience and talents of older Americans while providing opportunities for them to gain new skills including organizing neighborhood programs, mentoring others, renovation, teaching English to immigrants and assisting victims of natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, the *Senior Companions* program provides assistance and friendship by senior volunteers to adults who have difficulties with daily living tasks such as shopping and paying bills, and the service provided allows those who need some help live independently, and it gives family members or caregivers respite and time off to run errands; and

WHEREAS, locally, **Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay** help older volunteers keep active, healthy and engaged, and the community has been strengthened and enriched, problems resolved, and citizens lives enhanced because of their efforts, and in honor of the *8th Annual Senior Corps Week*, the organization will host a Volunteer Training Program at Christ the King Catholic Church in Tampa, Florida.

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 15-19, 2017 as

“SENIOR CORPS WEEK”

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join me in recognizing the contributions the Senior Corps has made across the nation, and in our own community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 25th day of March, 2017.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor