

# 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 in the Tampa Bay area; and

**WHEREAS**, during **Perinatal Mental Health Week**, The Seventh Mom Project is featuring its family fun 5K ***Run for Mental Health - Raincoat Run 2018*** at Al Lopez Park on Sunday, April 22, 2018, 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 April 30-May 6, 2018 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 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor

