

# Proclamation



*Bob Buckhorn, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, older Americans, which account for more than 13.7 percent of the total population, are strengthening our communities and the American way of life, and many are remaining in the workforce to support themselves and their families, some embarking on second careers; and

**WHEREAS**, older persons serve as advocates and volunteers 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 healthier lives; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2015 theme for **Older American Month** is “*Get into the Act*” in honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the *Older Americans Act*, established in 1965 to provide vital services that assist older adults to maintain their health, independence, and to ensure a longer and higher quality of life for them; and

**WHEREAS**, the **Tampa Housing Authority** in Tampa, Florida plays a vital role in providing these services for approximately 900 older Americans throughout its housing communities and is committed to assisting them live longer, healthier lives, and the organization will host an **Older Americans Month Celebration** on May 7, 2015 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 2015 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 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2015.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor