

WHEREAS, *more than 4.5 million patients need blood transfusions each year in the United States and Canada; and*

WHEREAS, *only 38 percent of the U.S. population is eligible to donate blood and less than 10 percent do so annually; and*

WHEREAS, *one pint of blood can save up to three lives; and*

WHEREAS, *much of today's medical care depends on a steady supply of blood from healthy donors; and*

WHEREAS, *if only one more percent of all Americans would give blood, blood shortages would disappear for the foreseeable future; and*

WHEREAS, *the City of Orlando, the Church Street District, the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association, WFTV Channel 9 and OneBlood, our local blood center, have joined together to create Give Life Orlando; and*

WHEREAS, *Give Life Orlando will make it easy for all Downtowners to give blood to those in need; and*

WHEREAS, *the City of Orlando recognizes the importance of all blood donations and the selfless act of kindness by blood donors;*

NOW, THEREFORE, *I, Buddy Dyer, Mayor of the City of Orlando, in recognition of the importance of donating blood to save lives, do hereby proclaim Thursday, August 14, 2014 as*

“Give Life Orlando Day”