Proclamation
CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG
Rick Kriseman, Mayor

WHEREAS, lupus is a serious and incurable autoimmune disease that can cause life-threatening damage to any organ in the body; and

WHEREAS, lupus is a global health problem that affects millions of young women, men and children of all nationalities, races, ethnicities, genders and ages worldwide; and

WHEREAS, many physicians worldwide are unaware of the symptoms and health effects of lupus, causing people with lupus to suffer for many years before they can obtain a correct diagnosis and medical treatment; and

WHEREAS, medical research efforts into lupus and the discovery and development of safer, more effective treatments for lupus patients are under-funded in comparison with diseases of similar magnitude and severity; and

WHEREAS, people with lupus will face a lifetime of living with the unpredictable and life-changing health effects of this disease; and

WHEREAS, there is a deep, unmet need worldwide to educate and support individuals, families and caregivers affected by lupus; and

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to increase awareness in communities worldwide of the devastating impact of lupus.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Kriseman, Mayor of the City of St. Petersburg, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 10, 2019 to be

WORLD LUPUS DAY

in St. Petersburg and encourage increased public and private sector funding for medical research on lupus, targeted education programs for health professionals, patients and the public, and worldwide recognition of lupus as a significant public health issue.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official Seal of the City of St. Petersburg, County of Pinellas, and State of Florida to be affixed this 10th day of May 2019.

Rick Kriseman
Mayor