

WHEREAS, in 2006, the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership was established in response to a community need, championed by elected officials, local city government and city school leadership, and managed by a team of Alexandria City, Alexandria City Public Schools and non-profit partners, led by community member, Ms. Mary Riley; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership is a non-funded entity that has existed through determination and extraordinary efforts of City employees, the support of local leadership and the generosity of nonprofit and faith communities; and

WHEREAS, for the past 10 years, the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership has committed to the vision that each of our children and young adults who need a mentoring relationship will have one; and

WHEREAS, the Partnership ensures that quality mentors and mentoring programs are available for Alexandria's youth by maximizing mentor recruitment, evidence-based best practices in mentoring, screening, training and support, and mentoring creates meaningful connections that positively impact the life of both the child and the mentor; and

WHEREAS, research shows that youth who regularly spend time with their mentors are likely to experience improved educational, social and economic outcomes, and research also shows that adults who mentor build leadership and management skills while giving back to the community; and

WHEREAS, as of December 2016, Alexandria Mentoring Partnership programs had more than 400 mentors and 500 children in their programs, and the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership seeks to recruit 500 new mentors by 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Partnership invites all mentoring programs in the City to share in its resources for Quality-Based Mentoring strategies; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria will do all it can to support the growth and quality of the mentoring experience for children and young adults, mentors and mentoring programs, and believes that at the heart of the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership is the belief that every child and young adult who needs a mentor should have a mentor.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALLISON SILBERBERG, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of January as:

“Alexandria Mentoring Month”

And affirm the commitment of the City of Alexandria to support Alexandria Mentoring Partnership initiatives in the City of Alexandria.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 10th day of January, 2017.

ALLISON SILBERBERG MAYOR

On behalf of the City Council of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, MMC City Clerk