

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in 2006, the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership was inspired by community member Mary Riley, championed by local leaders, and brought to life by a team from City government, the Alexandria City Public Schools and non-profit partners; and

WHEREAS, throughout the past 13 years, the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership has been committed to the vision that each of our children and young adults who needs a mentoring relationship will have one; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership is a non-profit entity that has existed through the determination and extraordinary efforts of City employees and AmeriCorps VISTA volunteers, the support of local leaders and the generosity of non-profit and faith communities; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership's diverse one-to-one and group mentoring programs currently provides 504 youth and young adults with 393 volunteer adult mentors; and

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

WHEREAS, research shows that youth who regularly spend time with mentors are more likely to experience improved educational, social, emotional and economic outcomes, and research also shows that adults who mentor build leadership and management skills and develop a stronger sense of community; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership members participated in strategic planning sessions to align with Alexandria's Youth Master Plan; referred 167 prospective adult volunteers to mentor programs; facilitated New Mentor Information Sessions, Darkness to Light child abuse prevention and Developmental Assets trainings; and collaborated with the Virginia Mentoring Partnership to provide mentoring programs with technical assistance to implement evidence-based practices and build capacity; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership invites all mentoring programs in Alexandria to share in its resources for National Quality Mentoring strategies and for building developmental assets in youth; 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 recognizes 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, JUSTIN M. WILSON, 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 WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 8th day of January, 2019.

MAYOR JUSTIN M. WILSON

*On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia*

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk