

A PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 2021, AS NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH IN THE CITY OF NORMAN.

- § 1. WHEREAS, January 2021 marks the 19th Anniversary of National Mentoring Month which honors volunteer mentors who support young people by showing up for them every day and demonstrating their commitment to helping them thrive; and
- § 2. WHEREAS, mentoring programs like Alameda Reading Tutoring Program; Big Brothers Big Sisters Norman; Center for Children and Families Boys and Girls Club of Norman; Bridges of Norman Mentoring Program; Chevron Phillips Scholar-Mentor Program; and Dean's Leadership Council make our city stronger by driving impactful relationships that increase social capital for young people and provide invaluable support networks; and
- § 3. WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, mentoring programs have stepped up to fill gaps for young people and families, connecting them with resources and ensuring that mentoring relationships continue virtually to ensure that physical distancing does not mean social disconnection; and
- § 4. WHEREAS, students who meet regularly with their mentors are more than 52% less likely than their peers to skip a day of school and youth who face an opportunity gap but have a mentor are 55 percent more likely to be enrolled in college than those who did not have a mentor; and
- § 5. WHEREAS, quality mentoring promotes healthy relationships and communication, positive self-esteem, emotional well-being, and growth of a young person and their relationships with other adults; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA:

- § 6. Do hereby proclaim the month of January, 2021, as National Mentoring Month in the City of Norman, Oklahoma, and encourage all citizens, businesses, public and private agencies, and religious and educational institutions to celebrate, elevate, and encourage mentoring in the City of Norman and recruit adult mentors.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of January, 2021.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

