

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the future success of our state depends upon supporting every child to reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that young people need a solid foundation to nurture them as they learn and grow to become productive and caring Washingtonians; and

WHEREAS, research shows that mentoring provides long-term benefits for young people by increasing their chances of high school and college success; and

WHEREAS, positive relationships with adults decrease the likelihood of disengagement from school and risky behaviors like substance abuse; and

WHEREAS, thousands of students across Washington are in need of a caring adult in their lives, and meeting this need will require investment, partnerships, and volunteers ready to make a difference in a student's life; and

WHEREAS, quality organizations in our state, such as Communities In Schools of Washington, Jobs for Washington Graduates, Boys and Girls Clubs of Washington State, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and Mentoring Works Washington, stand ready to help volunteers get connected with students to mentor them around, over and through the barriers which may keep them from a successful pathway in their lives; and

WHEREAS, National Mentoring Month is an opportunity to unite the residents of Washington to empower our students, raise public awareness of the importance of mentoring, recognize those who have impacted youth across the state, and build a brighter future for Washington's children through mentoring;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim January 2015 as

National Mentoring Month

in Washington, and call upon all people in our state to recognize the importance of strengthening their communities through mentoring, and to observe this month with gratitude for active mentors and opportunities to add new mentors.

Signed this 12th day of January, 2015

Governor Jay Inslee

