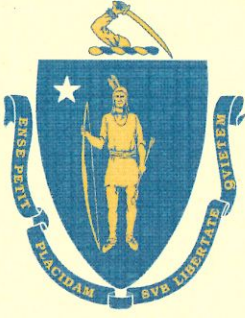


The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas, Massachusetts Mentoring Month is an opportunity to celebrate the dedicated mentors in our state who provide guidance, wisdom and positive examples to our young people; and

Whereas, A mentor is a caring person who is consistently present and who devotes time to a young person to help them discover personal strength and achieve their potential through a structured and trusting relationship; and

Whereas, In congruence with National Mentoring Month, Massachusetts highlights the work mentors do to prepare the future generation for success. January is an opportunity to raise awareness of the impact of mentoring by encouraging organizations to integrate quality mentoring programs into their efforts; and

Whereas, Quality mentoring encourages positive choices, promotes self-esteem, supports academic achievement and introduces young people to new ideas. Mentoring programs have also been shown to be effective in combatting school violence, discipline problems, substance abuse, incarceration and truancy; and

Whereas, Research shows that young people who were at risk of not completing high school but have a mentor were 55 percent more likely to be enrolled in college, 81 percent more likely to report participating in school in extracurricular activities, more than twice as likely to say they held a leadership position in a club or sports team and are more likely to volunteer regularly in their communities; and

Whereas, The public should observe this month and recognize those who serve as staff and volunteers at quality mentoring programs to help young people find inner strength and reach their full potential, along with recognizing the positive impact mentees have on their mentors,

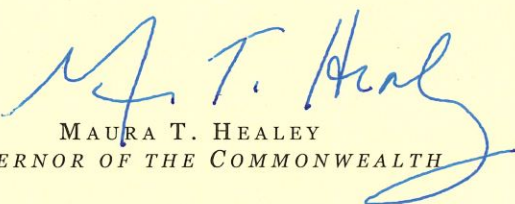
Now, Therefore, I, Maura T. Healey, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim January 2024, to be,

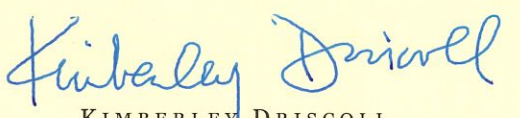
MASSACHUSETTS MENTORING MONTH

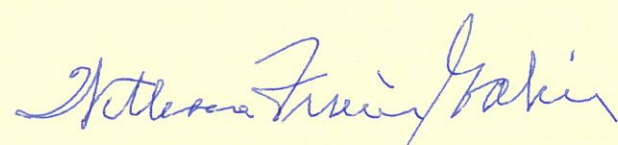
And urge all residents of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this first day of January, in the year two thousand and twenty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-seventh.

BY HER EXCELLENCY


MAURA T. HEALEY
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH


KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH


WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts