

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 use; and

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

WHEREAS, quality organizations in our state, such as Big Brothers Big Sisters of Washington, Communities In Schools of Washington, Friends of the Children, Boys and Girls Clubs of Washington state, OurGEMS, and Mentor Washington, stand ready to help volunteers get connected with students to mentor them around, over, and through the barriers that may keep them from a successful pathway in their lives; and

WHEREAS, 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 2023 as

Mentoring Month

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

Signed this 19th day of December, 2022

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee".

Governor Jay Inslee

