

## **Proclamation**

## By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, January is known as National Mentoring Month, an annual campaign to recruit quality mentors to provide additional networks of support for young people; and

WHEREAS, Alabama recognizes the contributions of volunteer mentors, who guide young people to success in their education, career and well-being; and

WHEREAS, mentoring programs in Alabama make our state and communities stronger by enabling impactful relationships that increase social capital for young people and provide invaluable support networks; and

WHEREAS, mentoring programs generally have a significant, positive impact on youth academic achievement, school connectedness and engagement and educational success, which can lead to outcomes such as improved attendance, grades, test scores and classroom behavior; and

WHEREAS, mentoring is an innovative, evidence-based practice and, uniquely, is both a prevention and intervention strategy that can support young people of all demographics and backgrounds in all aspects of their lives; and

WHEREAS, despite the benefits of mentoring, one young person of every three is growing up without a mentor, which means a third of the youth of the United States are growing up without someone outside of the home to offer real life guidance and support; and

WHEREAS, this "mentoring gap" demonstrates the need for collaboration among the private, public and nonprofit sectors to increase resources for relationship-centric supports for youth in communities, schools and workplaces;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim January 2024,

## National Mentoring Month

in the state of Alabama.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024.

Kay Ivey, Governor