

Proclamation

WHEREAS, mentors can change lives by helping youths reach their full potential, giving them inspiration and confidence, and offering steady support, guidance and hope; and

WHEREAS, quality mentoring programs create safe, healthy and meaningful relationships with youths and provide parents with a network of support; and

WHEREAS, quality mentoring programs are particularly beneficial to young children, disadvantaged teens and at-risk students; and

WHEREAS, mentorship results in improved academic performance, increased social and emotional wellbeing, enhanced self-confidence in handling peer pressure, and personal growth; and

WHEREAS, youths who meet regularly with their mentors are more than 52 percent less likely than their peers to skip a day of school, 55 percent more likely to be enrolled in college, 46 percent less likely to start using drugs, and 27 percent less likely to start drinking; and

WHEREAS, quality mentoring programs like Big Brothers Big Sisters Hawai'i make our communities and our state stronger; and

WHEREAS, mentors gain a sense of accomplishment, increased self-esteem, insight into childhood, adolescence and young adulthood, and increased patience and improved supervisory skills; and

WHEREAS, National Mentoring Month is the time of year when engagement from community members interested in becoming a mentor is highest and is an opportunity to celebrate, elevate, and encourage mentoring in communities across the country;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and **I, JOSHUA B. GREEN**, **Lieutenant Governor** of the **State of Hawai'i**, do hereby proclaim January 2019 as

"MENTORING MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in honoring the caring mentors who take a stand and encourage the potential of our young people by showing up for them every day and demonstrating their commitment to helping them thrive and recognizing the positive difference that mentoring programs make in our local communities.

Done at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this ninth day of January 2019.

DAVID Y. IGE Governor, State of Hawai'i

JOSHUA B. GREEN Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i