

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the future of Vermont rests on the hopes and dreams of its young people; and

WHEREAS, mentors offer valuable encouragement, motivation, and hope for youth by providing a consistent adult friend and role model, guiding them to make positive, healthy choices; and

WHEREAS, youth with mentors are more likely to graduate from high school and attend college and other post-secondary education programs; and

WHEREAS, youth with mentors also exhibit improved resiliency; better relationships with peers and family members; and feel more connected to their community and school; and

WHEREAS, youth with mentors are more likely to volunteer in their communities; participate in sports and extracurricular activities and hold a leadership position in a sports team, club, student council or other organization; and

WHEREAS, given the long-term effects of disconnection and trauma brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, this is a crucial moment for us all to collectively do everything we can to ensure young people in Vermont have the supportive mentoring relationships they need to process, recover, and grow; and

WHEREAS local mentoring programs provide a connection between older and younger generations, and strengthen ties among all members of the community; and

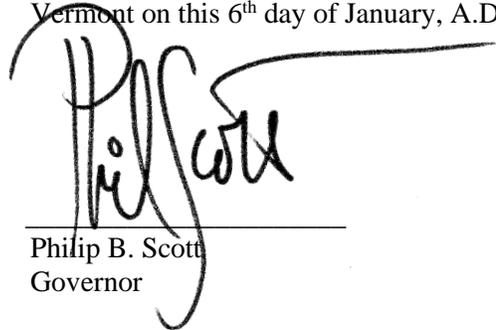
WHEREAS, since 2013, MENTOR Vermont has served as a statewide mentoring partnership, and is committed to closing the mentoring gap by providing support and connection for youth mentoring programs and volunteer mentors throughout Vermont; and

WHEREAS Vermont mentoring programs, including MENTOR Vermont and other public and private organizations throughout the state, are committed to working collaboratively to increase the number of quality mentoring matches statewide.

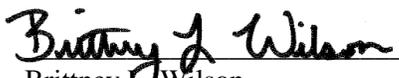
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim January 2023 as

**MENTORING MONTH
in Vermont.**

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 6th day of January, A.D. 2023.


Philip B. Scott
Governor




Brittney J. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs