



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2025-01

National Mentoring Month

WHEREAS, January 2025 will mark the 23rd anniversary of National Mentoring Month, a time when the community comes together to ignite passions of our youth and help them turn their wildest dreams into reality; and

WHEREAS, this annual campaign is a time to focus attention on the need for mentors, as well as how each of us can work together to increase the number of mentors to help ensure positive outcomes for our young people; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme "Mentoring Matters" supports mentoring young people through active listening, being available, and providing analysis through constructive feedback; and

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

WHEREAS, youth who face an opportunity gap but have a mentor are 55 percent more likely to be enrolled in college than those who did not have a mentor; and

WHEREAS, Charles County recognizes National Mentoring Month as a time to recognize the transformative power of mentorship and use it as a call for action to support youth in our community, as well as, provide praise and gratitude to the many residents already involved in mentoring.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim January 2025 as **NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH** in Charles County to recognize and acknowledge the importance of mentorship programs, and invite all residents to consider becoming a mentor.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Attest:

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners