



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2026-01

National Mentoring Month

WHEREAS, January 2026 will mark the 24th anniversary of National Mentoring Month, a time when communities come together to ignite the passions of our youth and help them turn their dreams into reality; and

WHEREAS, this annual observance highlights the need for mentors, underscores the importance of collective efforts to increase the number of mentors to help ensure positive outcomes for our youth; and

WHEREAS, research shows that youth who meet regularly with 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 opportunity gaps but have a mentor are 55 percent more likely to enroll in college than those without a mentor; and

WHEREAS, Charles County recognizes National Mentoring Month as a time to recognize the transformative power of mentorship, call attention to the ongoing need for mentors in our community and, express gratitude to the many residents who dedicate their time and talents to guiding our youth.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim January 2026 as **NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH** in Charles County and encourage all residents to recognize the importance of mentorship, support mentoring initiatives, and consider becoming mentors to help strengthen the future of our community.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Attest:

John Adelodun, Assistant Clerk to the Commissioners