

**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

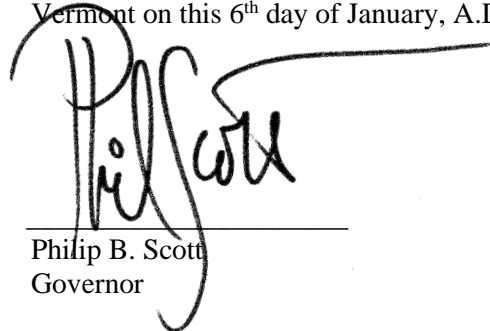
**WHEREAS,** since 2013, MENTOR Vermont has served as a statewide mentoring partnership, and is committed to closing the mentoring gap by providing support and connection for youth mentoring programs and volunteer mentors throughout Vermont; and

**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.

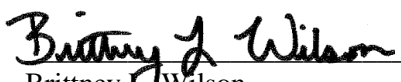
**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim January 2023 as

**MENTORING MONTH  
in Vermont.**

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

  
Philip B. Scott  
Governor



  
Brittney J. Wilson  
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs