

Proclamation

NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

WHEREAS, January is National Mentoring Month: an annual campaign to raise awareness of and celebrate the powerful impact of mentoring relationships, recruit new mentors, and encourage institutions to integrate quality mentoring into their policies and practices; and,

WHEREAS, Carrboro, North Carolina recognizes the contributions of volunteer mentors, who link youth to economic and social opportunity, while also strengthening our community; and,

WHEREAS, January 2025 will mark the 22nd anniversary of National Mentoring Month, an annual campaign to focus attention on the need for mentors, as well as acknowledge their commitment to service and the community and the 30th year of the flagship award-winning Blue Ribbon Mentor-Advocate program; and,

WHEREAS, mentors can help young people set career goals, and help connect mentees to industry professionals to train for and find jobs; and,

WHEREAS, effective mentoring of underserved and vulnerable populations of young people helps them confront challenges and enjoy improved mental health and social-emotional well-being; and,

WHEREAS, Blue Ribbon was created to close the achievement gap. The program has 79 scholars of color in 4th - 12th grades and provides additional programs such as the Youth Leadership Institute, BluePrint, Seeking the Self, LevelUP and NextLevel; and,

WHEREAS, the Blue Ribbon Mentor-Advocate Program makes our community stronger by supporting impactful relationships that increase social capital for young people, provide invaluable cultural and social enrichment and engagement and has graduated 99% of Blue Ribbon scholars from the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools; and,

WHEREAS, quality mentoring promotes healthy relationships, communication, positive self-esteem, and emotional well-being, and scholars who meet weekly with their mentors are 75% more likely to have held a leadership position in a club or sports team, 22% more likely to have experienced a strong sense of belonging while growing up, 58% say their mentor has supported their mental health; and,

WHEREAS, National Mentoring Month is the time of year to acknowledge, celebrate, elevate, encourage, and honor mentoring across our state and to recruit caring adult mentors in Chapel Hill and Carrboro and beyond.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Barbara M. Foushee, do hereby proclaim January 2025, as National Mentoring Month in Carrboro, North Carolina.

This the 7th day of January, 2025.

B.M. Foushee
Barbara M. Foushee

