

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: Caring mentors make a difference in the lives of young people by promoting and demonstrating healthy relationships, open communication, positive self-esteem and growth. This, in turn, strengthens our communities and city as a whole; and

WHEREAS: These mentors are individuals from families, nonprofit or faith-based organizations, recreational facilities, educational settings and more; and

WHEREAS: The National Mentoring Partnership (MENTOR) and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health launched National Mentoring Month in 2002 to highlight the importance of mentorship for young people, as well as raise awareness of how everyone – individuals, businesses, government agencies, schools, faith communities and nonprofits – can increase the number of youth-serving mentors; and

WHEREAS: According to MENTOR, students who meet regularly with a mentor are 52 percent less likely than their peers to be truant. Those youth who face an opportunity gap but have a mentor are 55 percent more likely to go on to college than those who do not receive such support; and

WHEREAS: The citizens of Jacksonville recognize that every child deserves to be equipped with the tools, guidance and opportunities to pursue their dreams and find success.

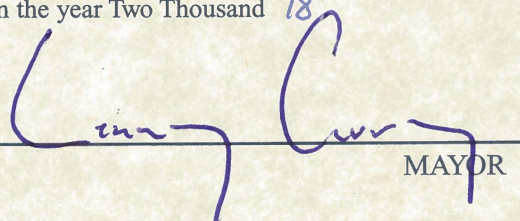
NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim January 2019 as

MENTORING MONTH

in Jacksonville and encourage citizens of all ages to offer encouragement to our future leaders through service as a mentor, and encourage youth to seek out opportunities to learn from knowledgeable and inspiring adults in our community.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 18th day of December
in the year Two Thousand 18


MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA