

WHEREAS, every day Big Brothers Big Sisters works to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported one-to-one relationships that change their lives for the better, forever; and

WHEREAS, mentoring is a proven, effective strategy that helps children by matching them with a caring, responsible adult who can provide guidance and direction, and build their confidence; and

WHEREAS, research shows that mentoring has beneficial and long-term effects on youth by increasing their academic engagement and decreasing the likelihood of substance abuse and other risky behaviors; and

WHEREAS, dozens of Fort Pierce children are in need of a caring adult mentor in their lives, and closing this mentoring gap will take more investment, partnerships, and volunteers ready to make a difference in a child's life; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Pierce recognizes that our success depends on helping every child reach their full potential in life, and realizes that young people need a solid foundation of support that will help them become well-educated, confident, and productive citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Linda Hudson, Mayor of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, do hereby proclaim the month of January, 2015, as:

“National Mentoring Month”

and urge all citizens to recognize the importance of mentoring, to look for opportunities to serve as mentors in their communities, and to observe this month with appropriate activities and programs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official Seal of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, to be affixed this 15th day of December, 2014.

MAYOR COMMISSIONER