

State of Texas \*  
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County of Comal \*

# Proclamation

## Recognizing January 2019 as National Mentoring Month in Comal County

**WHEREAS**, in 2002 the Harvard School of Public Health and MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership created National Mentoring Month; and

**WHEREAS**, the goals of National Mentoring Month are to raise awareness of mentoring, recruit individuals to mentor, and encourage organizations to engage and integrate quality mentoring into their efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, a mentor is a caring, consistent presence who devotes time to a young person to help them discover personal strength and achieve their potential through a structured and trusting relationship; and

**WHEREAS**, quality mentoring encourages positive choices, promotes self-esteem, supports academic achievement and introduces young people to new ideas; and

**WHEREAS**, mentoring programs have shown to be effective in combating school violence and discipline problems, substance abuse, incarceration, and truancy; and

**WHEREAS**, research shows that young people who were at risk for not completing high school but who had a mentor were 55 percent more likely to be enrolled in college, 81 percent more likely to report participating regularly in sports or extracurricular activities, more than twice as likely to say they held a leadership position in a club or sports team, and 78 percent more likely to volunteer regularly in their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, youth development experts agree that mentoring is critical to the social, emotional and cognitive development of youth, helping them navigate the path to adulthood more successfully; and

**WHEREAS**, mentors help young people set career goals and use personal contacts to help young people meet industry professionals and find jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, mentoring is a proven cost-effective investment, in that for every \$1 invested in mentoring, there is a \$3 return to society; and

**WHEREAS**, all of the above listed benefits serve to link youth to economic opportunity while also strengthening the fiber of our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, despite these benefits, one in three youth will reach age 19 without a mentor – constituting a “mentoring gap” that demonstrates a need for collaboration and resources.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** that the Comal County Commissioners Court duly convened and acting in its capacity as the governing body of Comal County proclaims January 2019 as National Mentoring Month, recognize Communities in Schools of South Central Texas for 16 years of continued support in Comal County, and call upon public officials, business and community leaders, and educators to encourage the residents of Comal County to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies, activities and events that support this great program.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019.

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**Sherman Krause, County Judge**

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**Donna Eccleston, Commissioner Pct. 1**

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**Scott Haag, Commissioner Pct. 2**

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**Kevin Webb, Commissioner Pct. 3**

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**Jen Crownover, Commissioner Pct. 4**

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Bobbie Koepp, County Clerk**