

State of Texas *

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County of Comal *

Proclamation

Recognizing January 2017 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 in mentoring into their efforts; and

WHEREAS, a mentor is a caring, consistent presence who devotes time to a young person to help that young person 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 their personal contacts to help young people meet industry professionals and find jobs; and

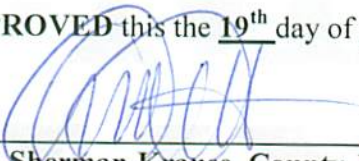
WHEREAS, mentoring is a proven cost-effective investment: for every \$1 invested in mentoring, there is a \$3 return to society; and

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

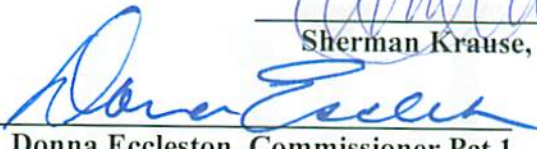
WHEREAS, despite these benefits, one in three youth will reach age 19 without a mentor – constituting a “mentoring gap” that demonstrates a need for collaboration and resources.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Comal County Commissioners Court does hereby proclaim January 2017 as National Mentoring Month, recognize Communities in Schools of South Central Texas for 16 years of continued support here in Comal County, and call upon public officials, business and community leaders, and educators, to encourage the citizens of Comal County to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies, activities and programs that support this great program.

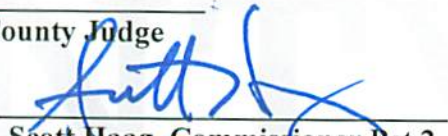
PASSED AND APPROVED this the 19th day of January, 2017.



Sherman Krause, County Judge



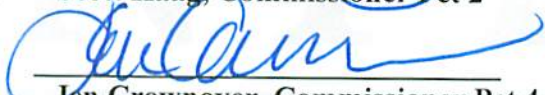
Donna Eccleston, Commissioner Pct 1



Scott Haag, Commissioner Pct 2

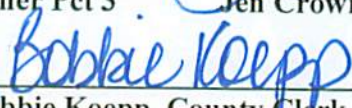
Absent

Kevin Webb, Commissioner Pct 3



Jen Crownover, Commissioner Pct 4

Attest:



Bobbie Koepf, County Clerk



