

City of Eureka

# Proclamation



In recognition of

## *National Mentoring Month* *January 2024*

*Whereas*, this year Big Brothers Big Sisters of the North Coast, celebrates 55 years of service to the youth in Humboldt County; Big Brothers Big Sisters of the North Coast recognize that the future of Humboldt County rests on the success of its youth; *and*

*Whereas*, a mentor is a caring, consistent presence who devotes time to help a young person develop personal strength and achieve their potential through a structured and trusting relationship. Quality mentoring encourages positive choices, promotes self-esteem, supports academic achievement and introduces young people to new ideas; *and*

*Whereas*, research shows that young people matched with a caring adult through a quality mentoring program are 55 percent more likely to be enrolled in college, 81 percent more likely to report participating regularly in extracurricular activities and sports, 78 percent more likely to volunteer and twice as likely to say they held a leadership position than those who did not have a mentor; *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*, our community has a number of community volunteers, teachers and many others who support the mentoring movement and work selflessly to improve our children's odds for success; *and*

*Now, therefore, I Mayor Kim Bergel, on behalf of the Eureka City Council*, do hereby proclaim January 2024 as National Mentoring Month and thanks all of our local heroes who participate in quality mentoring programs to equip our youth with the tools to lead healthy and productive lives. We also call on residents to help close the gap between availability of mentors and the number children facing challenging circumstances who would love to spend time with a Big Brother or Big Sister. It takes Little to be a BIG for National Mentoring Month.

*Kim Bergel*  
Mayor  
January 16, 2024