

City of Grand Island

Tuesday, January 11, 2005 Council Session

Item C1

Proclamation ''National Mentoring Month'' January 2005

Children in our Nation today face difficult circumstances with the future of the City of Grand Island resting on the shoulders of our youth. Mentoring is a proven, effective strategy to combat these circumstances by matching a caring, responsible adult with a child to provide guidance, build confidence, stability, and direction. The Mayor has proclaimed the month of January 2005 as ''National Mentoring Month''. Nancy Jones - Team Mates Coordinator and Gary Gilbert - Director of Big Brothers Big Sisters will be present to receive this proclamation. See attached PROCLAMATION.

Staff Contact: RaNae Edwards

THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR City of Grand Island

State of Nebraska

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The future course of the City of Grand Island, State of Nebraska and our Nation rests on the shoulders of our youth and educated. Confident and nurtured children will give rise to a stronger City, State and Nation; and

- WHEREAS, Children in our Nation today face difficult circumstances, with one out of four with only one parent, one out of ten born to teen parents, one out of five living in poverty and one out of ten who will not finish high school; and
- WHEREAS, Mentoring is a proven, effective strategy to combat these circumstances by matching a caring, responsible adult with a child to provide guidance and build confidence, stability and direction for that child; and
- WHEREAS, Research has shown that mentoring has a definitive impact on young people by increasing attendance at school, improving rates of high school graduation and college attendance, and decreasing involvement with drugs, alcohol and violent behaviors; and
- WHEREAS, There are many children in this City and in this country who need or want a mentor and thousands of children sit on waiting lists for a mentor; and
- WHEREAS, The establishment of National Mentoring Month will emphasize the importance of mentoring and recognize with praise and gratitude the many citizens already involved in mentoring; and
- WHEREAS, In support of National Mentoring Month, the entire Nation will celebrate mentoring with such activities as the unveiling of a new "Mentoring a Child" stamp by the U.S. Postal Service; and
- WHEREAS, National Mentoring Month will above all encourage more people to volunteer as mentors to the benefit of young children nationwide.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Vavricek, Mayor of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, do hereby proclaim the month of January, 2005 as

"NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH"

in the City of Grand Island, and encourage all citizens to observe the month with appropriate ceremonies and activities to promote awareness of and volunteer involvement in youth mentoring.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Grand Island to be affixed this eleventh day of January in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Five.

Jay Vavricek, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

