



Joint Proclamation

WHEREAS, there are approximately 3,000 children in Whatcom County living in poverty; and

WHEREAS, poverty is a debilitating cycle, one that can hold families hostage for generations, affecting every aspect of their lives; and

WHEREAS, the presence of a mentor raises a child's self-esteem, broadens their perspective of the future, and encourages them to reach their full potential in adulthood; and

WHEREAS, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Washington has been working since 1976 toward the goal of bringing mentors to every child who needs or wants them; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, January was proclaimed National Mentoring Month in the United States of America, in recognition of the power of mentoring to create brighter futures for our children; and

WHEREAS, the more citizens engaged as volunteer mentors, the more children can be reached, and encouraged to develop into healthy, happy adults who will in turn strengthen the community from within;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, Kelli Linville, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, and Pete Kremen, Whatcom County Executive, do hereby proclaim January 2012 to be

LOCAL MENTORING MONTH

in the City of Bellingham and Whatcom County.

Signed this 4th day of January, 2012

Handwritten signature of Kelli Linville in blue ink.

Kelli Linville
Mayor, City of Bellingham

Handwritten signature of Pete Kremen in blue ink.

Pete Kremen
Whatcom County Executive

