



# 2026 NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

## State & Local Public Official Toolkit

Each January since its launch over 20 years ago, National Mentoring Month has enjoyed strong bipartisan support from elected officials at all levels of government. As a state or local official, you can celebrate the powerful impact of mentoring relationships and support programs in your district, county, and state by participating in National Mentoring Month 2026!

### We've provided a variety of ways to engage ranging from:

- Committing to support public funding for youth mentoring
- Sharing your mentoring story
- Visiting and recruiting mentors for a program in your community.

To make participating easy, take a look at the tools, templates, and resources below!

## ENGAGE IN NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH 2026



**Sponsor a National Mentoring Month [resolution](#) or issue a [proclamation](#):** Use our templates to write your own resolution or proclamation, celebrating January 2026 as Mentoring Month in your state or community.



**Deliver a public statement in support of mentoring:** Share a short speech on the floor of your legislature or on social media at any time throughout the month.



**Talk about your own mentoring relationships:** Or highlight a program making a difference in your community or state. You can find a sample speech [here](#) and sample social media [here](#). Don't forget to use the hashtag #MentoringMonth!



**Visit a mentoring program in your community:** Search the [Mentoring Connector](#), the only national database of mentoring programs in the country, to locate and connect with programs in your district.



**Extend Paid Leave Time to Mentor:** Are state or city employees eligible for paid volunteer leave time in your state? National Mentoring Month presents a great time to [enact a policy](#) to allow employees who serve as volunteer mentors to utilize paid volunteer leave.



**Partner on Recruitment:** Work with local programs and your community to host a local mentor recruitment campaign. Make the case to reduce your state's mentee waitlists: and increase mentor recruitment efforts.

## RESOURCES

- **Resource:** National Mentoring Month resolution
- **Resource:** Proclamation Template for Governors or Mayors
- **Tool:** Sample speech
- **Tool:** Sample Social Media Messages
- **Tool:** Benefits of Youth Mentoring Talking Points
- **Tool:** Recommended Paid Leave Policy for State/City Employees to Serve as Volunteer Mentors
- **Tool:** Mentoring Connector
- **Tool:** Issue-specific Resources

If you have any questions about engaging elected officials, please contact [Abbie Evans](#), MENTOR's Chief External Affairs Officer.

