



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

**Whereas**, New Yorkers recognize that the future of our state and nation rests in the hands of today's youth who will be tomorrow's leaders, and that children need a foundation of support and positive reinforcement that will help them become well-educated, confident and productive citizens; and

**Whereas**, among the elements of personal responsibility that each adult holds is to provide an example for youth and to contribute – in whatever way possible – to their growth and success in life, as our greater society benefits when children thrive in all areas of endeavor; and

**Whereas**, mentoring is a proven and effective strategy that matches children with a caring, responsible adult who provides guidance, direction, and a sense of reassurance about their future; and

**Whereas**, research indicates that mentoring has beneficial and long-term effects on youth by increasing their chances of high school graduation and college attendance; mentoring also decreases their likelihood of drug and alcohol use, and violent behavior; and

**Whereas**, many private and public sector organizations offer mentoring opportunities for youth through programs that provide technical assistance and encourage partnership among youth agencies, nationally-based organizations, religious institutions and public schools that sponsor mentoring, tutoring, college preparation strategies, and other supportive activities; and

**Whereas**, National Mentoring Month not only raises public awareness of the importance of mentoring programs in young lives, but also recognizes those involved in mentoring projects; at this time, citizens are reminded that they can positively influence youth by volunteering in various mentoring initiatives and all New Yorkers join to support the meaningful goals of this month-long observance which aims to build a brighter future for today's youth;

**Now, Therefore**, I, Eliot Spitzer, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim January 2008 as

## MENTORING MONTH

in the Empire State.



**G i b e n** under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-eighth day of December in the year two thousand seven.

  
Governor

  
Secretary to the Governor