PROCLAMATION

DECLARING THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2019
AS MENTORING AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, Mentoring measurably improves the lives of individuals and families in Palm Beach County with strong impact on rates of school attendance, avoidance of substance abuse and reductions in violence; and

WHEREAS, youth engaged in an active mentoring relationship are 55 percent more likely to be enrolled in college, and 52 percent less likely to skip a day of school, according to the National Mentoring Partnership; and

WHEREAS, youth who are mentored are 46 percent less likely to start using drugs and 27 percent less likely to start drinking, according to the Partnership; and

WHEREAS, about 4,500 children are assigned to mentors in Palm Beach County through the United Way Mentor Center in the past fiscal year, including 718 children matched with mentors through 15 programs funded by Children’s Services Council; and

WHEREAS, the total number of children assigned to mentors through the Center is the highest in its history; and

WHEREAS, of the 718 matches in CSC-funded programs, 366 are girls and 346 are boys with the rest unknown; and in addition, 359 of them are black, 108 are white, 133 are other, including mixed races, with the rest unknown; and

WHEREAS, The Mentor Center also serves as the anchor of the Palm Beach County Mentor Network, a professional group of 39 formal mentor programs – eight more than last year – working together to elevate mentoring in the community; and

WHEREAS, The Mentor Center is the only Florida affiliate of the National Mentoring Partnership and is one of just three nationally that awards grants and monitors subcontracts; and

WHEREAS, 1,208 children are on a “wait list” for a mentor in Palm Beach County, a 15 percent reduction in the list from last year, including 106 wait-listed for a CSC-funded mentoring program, which is also less than last year; and

WHEREAS, the wait list has been reduced by more than 800 youth since the mentoring programs transitioned in 2012 from Children’s Services Council to United Way;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF CHILDREN’S SERVICES COUNCIL OF PALM BEACH COUNTY that the following will be observed:

January 2019 – Prematurity Awareness Month

The foregoing Proclamation was offered by Council Member ____________________________, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Council Member ____________________________, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Thomas Bean
County Commissioner: ____________________________
Donald E. Fennoy, II, Ed.D.
Vincent Goodman
Thomas E. Lynch
James Martz
Vern Melvin
Debra Robinson, M.D.
Jose Luis Rodriguez, Esq.
Thomas P. Weber

The Chairman thereupon declared the Proclamation duly passed and adopted this 6th day of December, 2018.