PROCLAMATION

State of Texas **County of Brown**

WHEREAS, mentors help teach important skills that are necessary for a healthy, successful life and help shape the character of our young people. They instill compassion and responsibility in our children and help motivate them to do their best in school. By providing leadership and guidance, mentors can inspire young people to set high goals and help them achieve a bright future; and

WHEREAS, during National Mentoring Month we recognize the dedicated individuals who volunteer their time to mentor young people, and we encourage more citizens to give back to their communities as mentors; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that mentoring measurably affects young people by improving social skills, strengthening academic competence, increasing school attendance, improving rates of secondary school graduation and college attendance, decreasing involvement with drugs and alcohol, and decreasing violent behavior; and

WHEREAS, mentoring is a proven, effective strategy of matching a caring, responsible adult with a child to provide guidance, stability, and direction to the child and to build the child's confidence: and

WHEREAS, the establishment of National Mentoring Month emphasizes the importance of mentoring and recognizes with praise and gratitude the many individuals in our community and throughout the United States who are involved with mentoring; and

WHEREAS, many youth in Brown County are waiting for mentors;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, The Brown County Commissioners Court, do hereby proclaim January, 2014 as NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF BROWN COUNTY, this the $7^{\frac{1}{2}}$ day of January, 2014.

E. RAY WEST, III, COUNTY JUDGE

GARY WORLEY, PCT 1

WAYNE SHAW, PCT 3

JOEL KELTON, PCT 2

LARRY TRAWEEK, PCT 4

January 7,2014 (Exhibit #2)