



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties Is Hiring Mentors for 2026–27 Attendance Matters® Program

KENNEWICK, WA — United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties is looking for individuals to serve as mentors for our Attendance Matters® program for the 2026–2027 school year. The part-time, school year position begins August 26, 2026, and runs through mid-June 2027.

With a mission to improve the lives of local kids and families, United Way's Attendance Matters® initiative focuses on increasing regular school attendance by connecting students with caring adult mentors. These mentors play a vital role in encouraging consistency, fostering positive relationships, and helping students build lifelong habits that support academic and personal success.

"We believe that consistent school attendance is a foundation for student achievement," said Asta Bonheyo, Community Impact Director at United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties. "This program not only helps kids show up—it ensures they feel seen, supported, and encouraged along the way."

Mentors are assigned to a local elementary or middle school within Benton or Franklin County, where they work up to 20 hours per week during school hours. They will:

- Help local kids
- Promote consistent student attendance
- Conduct individual and group mentoring sessions
- Collaborate with school staff and communicate with families
- Track student progress and maintain accurate records

This is a hands-on, in-person position ideal for individuals with strong relationship-building skills, a passion for youth development, and a commitment to modeling positive habits. Bilingual candidates, college students pursuing education or social services, and retirees with flexible schedules are especially encouraged to apply.

Job Details:

- Pay: \$17.25/hour - bonus for bilingual Spanish employees
- Schedule: Weekdays only; no work during school breaks, holidays, or non-instructional days
- Start Date: August 26, 2026
- End Date: June 2027
- Location: Local schools in Benton or Franklin County
- Requirements: High school diploma or GED, reliable transportation, background check clearance

"Mentors become trusted adults in the lives of students who may need just a little extra encouragement to succeed," added Bonheyo. "This is about real relationships and showing up—literally and figuratively—for our youth."

How to Apply:

Interested candidates can apply online through United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties' careers page. Applications will remain open until all positions are filled.

Media Contact:

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