



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## United Way Receives Grants to Support Local Kids

Kennewick, WA – January 24, 2025 – The United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties is pleased to announce the receipt of two grants to improve the educational, health, and social outcomes for youth in our community.

A \$36,000 grant from the CLA Foundation through Clifton, Larson, Allen's Community Action Fund enables more than 250 chronically-absent middle schoolers to connect daily with AmeriCorps mentors through Attendance Matters®.

A \$5,000 grant from BMO Bank N.A. will be utilized to enhance student success and encourage a positive path towards graduation through our Attendance Matters® mentorship program in 9 local middle schools.

"We are deeply grateful for these grants which will allow us to build upon our mission of ensuring every child has the opportunity to succeed," said Dr. LoAnn Ayers, CEO & President of United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties. "These funds will directly impact the lives of children who face barriers to success, helping them stay on track with their education and receive the support they need to thrive. With the combined support of these grants, we can increase access to vital services that address the unique challenges local youth face."

These grants will be administered throughout 2025, with program updates and success stories shared regularly to highlight the positive changes being made. For more information on how you can support the mission, please visit <https://www.uwbfc.org/>.

### About United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties:

Since 1958 our community-based organization continues to support the health, safety, and success of local kids and families. We envision a community where all children have an opportunity to learn and thrive.

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