

# Want to help Pueblo's youth? Don't just think about it, DO IT!

One hour a week =  
a **LIFETIME** of benefits

## Mission

To enrich the lives of Pueblo middle school students by providing opportunities to build relationships with nurturing adults who empower and encourage them through one-to-one mentoring.

## Vision

That all Pueblo middle school students have access to nurturing mentors who help them develop into confident, responsible, and positive members of our community.



## Program overview

Since 2012, United Way of Pueblo County's Middle School Mentoring Program has been connecting positive and caring adults with middle schoolers in our community. Through weekly communication, mentors help mentees cultivate character and strength by fostering relationships centered on trust, hope, and growth.

Our program has adapted to the changing landscape of education during a pandemic and has expanded mentoring to include remote options. We work closely with Pueblo School District 60 and Pueblo County School District 70 to ensure the safety and well-being of both mentors and mentees.

A word from past program participants:

"I was able to trust my mentor with many things and she always gave amazing advice. She definitely had a huge impact on who I've become."

-Program mentee

"I strongly suggest for those that can mentor, I suggest you do it. It definitely changes kids' lives."

-Mentee parent

"This has been such an amazing experience and I am so thankful for United Way and the opportunities to our youth!" -Program mentor



For more information about the program and how to get involved:

719-225-8580

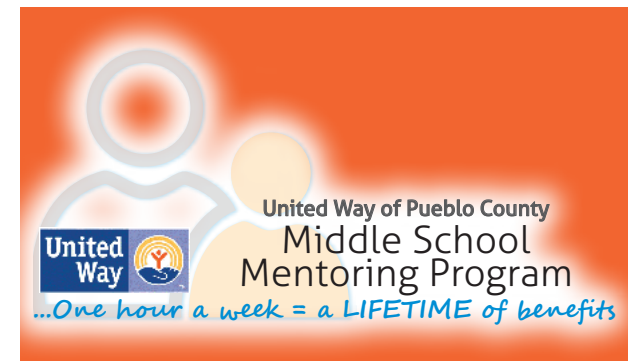
[www.pueblounitedway.org/mentor](http://www.pueblounitedway.org/mentor)

United Way  
of Pueblo County

United Way

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## Who are the MENTORS?

Think you have nothing to provide to help a youth in our community? Think again! All that is needed is a commitment to be there for one hour per week!

### **YOU can be a great mentor!**

Our mentors are:

- At least 21 years of age
- Free of a criminal history/record
- Committed to a minimum of one school year and a maximum of three until student completes middle school
- Comfortable with technology
- Committed to weekly connections with a mentee, remotely or in-person at the school
- Good listeners and attentive to the needs of the mentee
- Willing to learn and grow



## NEW mentor process

All mentors go through a screening, training, and selection process that includes the following steps:

1. Complete contact form at: [www.pueblounitedway.org/mentor](http://www.pueblounitedway.org/mentor)
2. Submit application and references
3. Attend interview with Program Coordinator
4. Complete background check and fingerprinting
5. Attend mentor training

## REMOTE mentoring options

Remote mentoring opens the door for those who would not normally have the flexibility in their daily schedule to visit the school each week.

Options include:

- Written letters
- Emails
- Phone calls
- Text messages
- Video chats (such as Zoom or FaceTime)



## Supporting the Mentor-Mentee Relationship

All mentors receive ongoing support and guidance from the Program Coordinator, school staff, and school liaison.

At least two mentor development trainings are held during the year for ongoing education.

Up to two relationship building field trips are scheduled during the school year with an optional trip during the summer, as permitted by current health and safety guidelines.

## Who are the MENTEES?

Mentees are middle school students who can thrive and be successful with a little extra help and support from an adult role model outside of the classroom setting.

Mentees are:

- Enrolled in participating middle schools in Pueblo School District 60 or Pueblo County School District 70
- Referred to program by school staff who collaborate with Program Coordinator to make compatible mentor-mentee matches

## Progress measurement

The effect of a student having a mentor in their lives is seen in multiple aspects—many may be quantitative, such as the reduction in absenteeism and increased academic success, while other impacts may be qualitative as is the case in higher confidence levels and self-esteem, improved attitudes toward attending school, and effective decision making.

The United Way of Pueblo County Middle School Mentoring Program utilizes the following progress indicators:

- Attendance
- Academic achievement/grades
- Behavior
- Engagement

## Success!

Over 75% of program participants have shown significant improvements in the progress indicator areas.