



CHILDREN'S
HOME SOCIETY
of Washington

Press Release

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January is National Mentoring Month: Mentors Needed!

Wenatchee and Walla Walla, WA — It takes as little as 30 minutes a week to make a difference in a child's life. Young people need mentors more than ever before.

What better time to support your local youth than during January's National Mentoring Month. *BOOST!*, a mentoring program of Children's Home Society of Washington, is currently recruiting volunteers in the greater Wenatchee and Walla Walla areas.

BOOST!

- Connects adult volunteers with students in 4th – 8th grade
- Is an education-based mentoring program
- Offers support and guidance on a weekly basis
- Boosts kids' self-esteem, grades, and confidence

If you are interested in becoming a *BOOST!* mentor for the current school year, please contact Jaime Robison in Wenatchee at (509) 663-0034 or Mariela Rosas in Walla Walla at (509) 529-2130.

"Mentors serve as vital role models to our students," says Douglas Head, CHSW Wenatchee Regional Director. "Our community can make a difference for children by positively impacting the direction of their lives."

Research has shown that programs that rely on volunteer mentors can play a powerful role in reducing drug abuse and youth violence while greatly enhancing a young person's prospects for leading a healthy and productive life. According to a recent report, there are 240,000 youth in Washington who are at-risk and in need of mentoring of a caring adult. However, only 20,000 - 8 percent - have mentors.

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Founded in 1896, Children's Home Society of Washington is the largest statewide children's organization dedicated to providing exceptional and innovative services to children and families. CHSW supports over 40,000 children and families each year through adoption, early learning, foster care, family support, and child and family

counseling services as well as advocates for children's rights both statewide and nationally. For more information on upcoming events and classes, call(509) 663-0034 (Wenatchee) or (509) 529-2130 (Walla Walla) or visit our web site at www.childrenshomesociety.org.