



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of New Hampshire

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Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire Expands to Lakes Region Support of anonymous donors launches youth mentoring partnership

LACONIA, NH – July 19, 2018 – Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire (BBBSNH) will bring youth mentoring to the Lakes Region, thanks to a \$150,000 donation from a group of anonymous donors who are passionate about serving the area’s needs. Partnering with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central New Hampshire, BBBSNH will offer site-based and community-based one-to-one mentoring for area children ages 6-18.

“This incredible, generous gift allows us to get started serving more children in life-changing mentoring relationships by expanding to the Lakes Region, something we have wanted to do for a long time, but did not have the funding to start or sustain,” said Stacy Kramer, Chief Executive Officer of BBBSNH. “As a preventive program addressing many risk factors facing youth today, our volunteer mentors are working on the front lines to keep kids in school, off drugs, out of jail, and ultimately, help them thrive and succeed.

“We are thrilled and grateful for the opportunity to start our program here in this part of the state.”

BBBSNH’s new office will be located at the Boys & Girls Club of the Lakes Region on North Main Street in Laconia. With this initial investment, BBBSNH plans to hire a full-time coordinator for the region, who will enroll children and volunteer mentors, and provide ongoing support to all mentoring matches. The agency will support both site-based matches that meet at the Boys & Girls Club, as well as community-based matches, which meet on their own for recreational and educational activities of their choosing.

This regional expansion strengthens the partnership between BBBSNH and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central NH, which are also collaborating on a workplace mentoring program at Northeast Delta Dental in Concord that will launch in the 2018-19 school year.

“Boys & Girls Clubs of the Lakes Region is proud to be a partner with Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire in this new venture and offer mentoring services to the City of Laconia,” said Executive Director Chris Emond. “The Boys & Girls Club and Big Brothers Big Sisters has had a proud history of working with underserved youth for decades.

Serving 1,000 children a year, BBBSNH’s mission is to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported one-to-one relationships that change their lives for the better, forever. BBBSNH became a statewide organization in 2015, with the merger of four regional agencies, and operates offices serving the Greater Seacoast, Greater Manchester, Greater Nashua, and the Monadnock Region. A satellite office in Groveton opened last year to begin serving the North Country.

BBBSNH focuses on serving children facing a variety of adversities. More than 60 percent of the children mentored by BBBSNH volunteers live in poverty. Additionally, one in five have a parent in prison or jail, and 35 percent of the newly-matched children in 2017 lived with a parent or family member struggling with substance misuse. Outcomes of BBBSNH mentoring include better grades, higher self-esteem, stronger relationships, and avoidance of risky behaviors such as drug or alcohol use.

To learn more about donating to strengthen this partnership, becoming a Big Brother or Big Sister, or enrolling your child in the program, visit www.bbbsnh.org, call 1-844-NH4-BIGS or email info@bbbsnh.org.
