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Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire Receives \$10,000 Grant To Advance Women Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation Grant Will Support Mentoring Girls and Young Women

Stratham, NH, August 8, 2018 – Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire (BBBSNH), a statewide youth mentoring program, today announced it has received a \$10,000 Targeted Grant from Eastern Bank. The grant will support 50 mentoring matches of girls and young women. BBBSNH serves more than 550 girls each year in one-to-one mentoring relationships.

Each year, the Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation's Targeted Grant program supports hundreds of community-based organizations working for progress on a specific issue in Eastern's New England footprint. In 2018, in celebration of the Bank's 200th anniversary and to honor its first depositor, Rebecca Sutton, Targeted Grants have been designated to support organizations addressing a range of issues that disproportionately impact women, such as sexual assault, domestic violence, human trafficking, health care, pay equity, and senior management and board representation. BBBSNH is among 170 nonprofits each receiving a \$10,000 grant.

"This investment from Eastern Bank allows BBBSNH to match more local girls and young women with life-changing female mentors," said BBBSNH CEO Stacy Kramer. "About 60 percent of the children we serve are girls and young women, and we know that children with mentors have higher self-esteem, are more likely to stay in school, and are less likely to use drugs or alcohol than peers without positive role models."

Eastern's Targeted Grant program this year creates new opportunities and resources for women in areas where assistance is needed the most. The facts are staggering:

- A woman is assaulted every nine seconds in the U.S. and one in three women has been a victim of physical brutality by an intimate partner, making intimate partner violence the single greatest cause of injury to women.
- In New Hampshire, women earn 76 cents for every dollar paid to men. African-American women nationwide earn 64 cents for every dollar earned by white men, and Latinas—only 56 cents.
- In the sciences, women represent less than 25% of those employed in computer and mathematical occupations and only 15% in architecture and engineering. For women of color, this gap is even wider. Asian women, African-American women, and Latinas make up less than 10% of working scientists and engineers in the U.S.
- Women receive more graduate degrees and they hold more faculty positions in colleges and universities, and yet, men hold the highest number of tenured university positions.
- Only 32 women run Fortune 500 companies and only two are women of color. Less than 20% of all board seats in Fortune 1,000 companies are held by women.

"We believe in breaking down the barriers that stand between people and prosperity. That's why Eastern is a strong advocate for the advancement of women," said Bob Rivers, Chair and CEO of Eastern Bank. "With each Targeted Grant, we aim to enhance the lives of our neighbors and contribute to real progress around the advancement of women in our local communities. On behalf of everyone at Eastern, we congratulate this year's Targeted Grant recipients and thank them for working to level the playing field."

For a complete list of the 2018 Targeted Grant recipients, click [here](#).

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