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## Big Brothers Big Sisters Recruiting Mentors for Lunchtime Program

Bennington, Vt. — Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bennington County needs volunteer mentors for its Lunchtime Mentoring Program.

“Being a mentor is one of the most rewarding things a person could ever do,” said Megan Brooks, who coordinates the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. “BBBS’ school-based volunteers give a child the invaluable gift of friendship by simply spending time together one hour a week, at lunchtime, during the school year.”

People can volunteer and get more information by contacting Megan Brooks at 802-442-5491, x287.

Schools currently served in Bennington include Monument Elementary, Molly Stark, and Bennington Elementary.

Mentors spend their lunch hours eating lunch, playing games, reading, hanging out, helping with homework, and having fun.

Kids in the Lunchtime Mentoring Program are between the ages of 6 and 11 when matched, and they may need help building and improving school performance or simply connecting with an adult friend they trust. Activities are based on the unique interest of the volunteer and child.

“Being a lunchtime mentor has been fun and helped me be a better father,” said Robert Pini, a lunchtime mentor for two years. “It’s a great way to take a break in the middle of the day.”

For over one hundred years, BBBS has been matching children with adult volunteers to build long-term, one-to-one relationships. The organization serves Bennington County and focuses on maintaining high-quality standards of screening, training, matching, supervising and supporting volunteers.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bennington County is sponsored by United Counseling Service. UCS serves children, adults, families, and seniors through nationally recognized counseling, early care and education, and clinical support. Visit [www.ucsvt.org](http://www.ucsvt.org) to find out more.

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