

# UCS News Release

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**For Immediate Release:**  
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## **Big Brothers Big Sisters Appoints Kerri MacLaury Northshire Coordinator**

Bennington and Manchester, Vt. — United Counseling Service (UCS) has appointed Kerri MacLaury to be the Northshire Big Brothers Big Sisters Program Coordinator. Over the coming year, she will expand programming in the Northshire to provide more mentors to more kids.

“Kerri MacLaury brings tremendous experience, enthusiasm, and skills,” said UCS Director of Early Childhood Services Betsy Rathbun-Gunn. “She has excellent experience working with youth. And she brings relationships and community connections that will help Big Brothers Big Sisters serve the Northshire well.”

Big Brothers Big Sisters provides children with the single greatest advantage they need to grow up successfully: friendship with a caring adult.

MacLaury will launch new programs to increase mentoring in area schools and communities.

Through the personal growth and guidance of a professionally supported, one-to-one relationship, children with mentors develop self-confidence and assurance. Adult mentors have fun, too! Anyone over 21 can apply to mentor by contacting MacLaury at 802-367-1155 or [kmaclaury@ucsvt.org](mailto:kmaclaury@ucsvt.org).

“I am so excited to be with UCS and Big Brothers Big Sisters,” MacLaury said. “I am so passionate about empowering Vermont youth and I believe that Big Brothers Big Sisters is the perfect venue for me to follow my passion.”

MacLaury worked formerly with The Collaborative, a substance use prevention coalition serving Manchester and Londonderry, VT, through an Americorps\*State position with the Vermont Youth Development Corps. In her work there, MacLaury’s excellence in positive youth development won her the 2009 Governor’s Award for Outstanding Volunteer Community Service.

“Big Brothers Big Sisters has helped so many local youth and I hope to help many, many more!” said MacLaury.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bennington County serves approximately 75 children annually by matching them with an adult mentor. To volunteer to mentor, refer a youth for mentoring, or donate time and money to support the program, please contact Kerri MacLaury at (802) 367-1155 or [kmaclaury@ucsvt.org](mailto:kmaclaury@ucsvt.org).

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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