



Big Brothers Big Sisters

OF SOUTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN



**INTERESTED IN HELPING TO
SPREAD THE WORD?
SCHEDULE A PRESENTATION!**
As Project Reconnect, we are
happy to make presentations
to organizations & clubs who
would like to learn more
about BBBS!

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A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BY KURT SATERBAK

Happy New Year!

The Board and staff of Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Wisconsin are excited about the possibilities ahead of us this year. With our Project Reconnect focus, we look forward to building relationships with individuals, organizations, and communities to help us let youth with adversities reach their full potential.

To make this happen, we reorganized our staff responsibilities and added hours to most of the field staff so that we can be available in a more relevant way in each community we serve. Every community in every county we serve will have at least six of our seven staff members with direct responsibilities for the success of our program in it. We, as an agency, will get to know our service area better and provide additional support for our collective efforts.

Kristin Kaczmarek will be serving Big Brothers Big Sisters full time as the community-based enrollment specialist for Dodge, Jefferson, and Rock Counties. Craig Bergum will serve as our agency-wide site-based enrollment specialist in this expanded full time role. Karen Medema will continue to serve Walworth County, while adding Whitewater's community-based enrollment and support in her expanded role. Juliana Treleven will be supporting our open matches in Dodge, Jefferson, and Rock Counties.

With our staff spending most of their week in the field, Jessi Harris now serves in the role of administrative and office support and will work out of the Delavan office daily.

Sadie Sauter has been promoted to the Director of Events and Marketing and will be working with and through each community to build awareness of our programs and how youth and adults can both become active members. Sadie will also be leading our major special events, which will raise more than \$200,000 this year.

And I, as the executive director, will support all of their efforts while building new partnerships with individuals, business, and other funding sources to make sure we grow to the level each community needs and wants.

Please refer to the Staff Listing on our website to make sure you have up to date contact information for each of our staff.

www.bbbs4kids.org

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EIGHT YEARS AND COUNTING!

Carol and her Little Sister, A, meet in 2013 and are best friends today. Back in 2013, Carol was at a point in her life of transition and she was looking for a way to give back to her community. "A" was a young girl who was facing several challenges in her young life. Carol and "A" began meeting with one another every week or so and this began a close friendship which has benefitted both Carol and "A" in many ways.

Carol shares that she enjoys her time with "A" and that they have had many

adventures together. Together they have done crafts together, they created a tradition of baking Christmas goodies together each Dec, they both love motorcycles, have gone to the Harley Davidson museum and many other things. Of course, their activities have changed over the years as "A" has grown older but the friendship remains. Carol says that "A" is her family and that she will always be there for "A".

"A" describes Carol as being "cool" and describes their relationship as being

"great". At times through the years, when both of their schedules have been complicated and it was difficult to schedule meeting times, "A" has insisted that no matter what, they will always be Big Sister and Little Sister. "A" says she talks to Carol about everything. Carol has become her confidant and biggest supporter.

Carol has been by "A"'s side through life transitions for both of them; she has helped "A" adjust to moving to middle school and now to high school. "A"s mom is thrilled with the match and says that Carol is "amazing!" Mom says that "A" and Carol talk all the time by phone, video chat or whatever means are available to them. Mom says that "A" tells her that even when she turns 18 years old, Carol will always be her Big Sister. Congratulations Carol and "A" on such a successful match and relationship that we hope benefits both of you!



A GIVING COMMUNITY

Walworth County is a very giving community as evidenced by the unbelievable generosity of this community every December since 2014. In 2014, in cooperation with Kunes Auto Group and First National Bank and Trust (formerly Walworth State Bank), Big Brothers Big Sisters established our Giving Tree program to benefit children involved in Big Brothers Big Sisters. The Giving Tree program provides Christmas wish lists from the children we work with to our supporting businesses. Those supporters then display ornaments sharing those wish lists on a Christmas tree in their place of business. With the help of the staff at Kunes and First National Bank and Trust and their patrons, BBBS has been able to provide gifts to hundreds of children in our community since 2014. This year Snap Fitness joined our Giving Tree efforts. BBBS looks

forward to continuing to build a relationship with Snap Fitness as we work to change the lives of children in our community.

BBBS has also been supported by a private individual who has provided gifts for children involved with BBBS for over 15 years now. Through the support of this individual and her friends and family alone, BBBS has provided hundreds of gifts to children in the community. This private individual chooses to remain anonymous but has been an amazing supporter of BBBS in this way.

A big shout out to Kunes Auto Group, First National Bank and Trust, Snap Fitness and our private supporter!!! You along with your patrons have brought encouragement and fun to many families over these years.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

All event information can be found at bbbs4kids.org

BFKS Janesville-

March 26th

Casino Nite-

April 30th

Golf For Kids' Sake

June 13th

