Big Brothers Big Sisters
Services, Inc.

# Mentoring Program

Volunteer

**Orientation Information** 





## **Our Vision**

All children achieve success in life

## **Our Mission**

Create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth

## Accountability

Bigs Brothers Big Sisters helps each child in its programs achieve:

- higher aspirations, greater confidence, and better relationships
- avoidance of risky behavior
- educational success

# Purpose of our Mentoring Program

For more than 100 years, Big Brothers Big Sisters has operated under the belief that inherent in every child is the ability to succeed and thrive in life. As the nation's largest donor- and volunteer-supported mentoring network, Big Brothers Big Sisters makes meaningful, monitored matches between adult volunteers ("Bigs") and children ("Littles"), in communities across the country. We develop positive relationships that have a direct and lasting effect on the lives of young people.

# Child Safety & Protection

Big Brothers Big Sisters Services, Inc.'s dedication to child well-being and safety is at the core of its paramount goal and prevailing culture. We demonstrate our commitment through our comprehensive enrollment process which determines the eligibility and suitability of the volunteer. Through the process, our staff gather the information needed to prepare recommendations for matching based on the volunteer Big applicant's ability to help meet the needs of a child, form a committed relationship with a child, and to work with both the parent/guardian (community based only), teachers and staff (for site based programs) and the agency.

## Overview of All BBBS Programs and Demographics of the Youth We serve

#### Community-Based Mentoring

Volunteer Mentors ("Bigs) meet with mentees ("littles) in the community weekly for at least 12 months

# Group Mentoring/Site-Based Facilitated

BBBS Services Staff meet with mentees either in a group setting or one-to-one at designated school or after school location weekly

#### Site-Based Mentoring

Volunteer Mentors ("Bigs") meet with mentees ("Littles") weekly at designated school or after school location weekly for the duration of the school year

#### **COUL** Activities

Host monthly events with our "Club of Unmatched Littles" - our youth who are ready to be but not yet matched

Youth in our programs range in age from 6-18 and come from diverse racial and socioeconomic backgrounds

# Volunteer Eligibility Criteria

21 years old to volunteer in our Community-Based program; 18 years old to volunteer in our Site-Based progam

Live or work in Forsyth
County for at least six
months

Have reliable transportation

Be able to make one year/weekly contact commitment

## **Overview of Our Process**

Potential volunteer must submit an application online. Upon receipt of acknowledgement of the application complete the following tasks: submit a background check for a cost of \$53.50, provide 3 personal references (one of which must include a spouse or spousal equivalent, or family member if no spouse), complete pre-match training and complete/submit training assessment. Volunteers who will meet with their Little at the Little's school must also register as volunteer with WSFCS.

Interview/Assessment: BBBS staff interview potential volunteer to learn more about their interests in volunteering and preferences for a Little. BBBS staff with then make an assessment of the appropriateness of the potential volunteer's participation as a BBBS mentor.

Match Presentation and Match Introduction Meeting: BBBS staff will identify potential matches based on volunteer and parent/guardian preferences as well as similar interests. Volunteers and youth are matched with same genders assigned at birth. BBBS staff will present potential little to volunteer for approval. Once volunteer has approved, the volunteer is presented to parent/guardian of approved youth. Once both parties approve, a match introduction meetings is scheduled for formal introductions and activation of the match.

Match Support: The purpose of Match Support is to monitor, coach, and guide the match to promote its development, match longevity, child safety/youth protection and positive youth protection. BBBS staff will conduct regular contacts with all participants of the match. All participants are expected to respond to BBBS staff. Participants may also reach out to BBBS staff whenever support for the match is needed.

\*BBBS reserves the right to accept or deny participants or close a match at any time.

## How We Will Partner

#### BIG



- Completion of BBBS enrollment processes and surveys
- Coordinate with parent/guardian for match meetings
- Maintain one year/weekly contact commitment
- Respond to BBBS Match support contacts and adhere to BBBS policies
- Report any concerns of child safety

#### Parents/Guardians



- Completion of BBBS enrollment processes and surveys
- Coordinate with Big for match meetings and be actively engaged in the match
- Respond to BBBS Match Support contacts and adhere to BBBS policies
- Report any instances where youth feels unsafe

#### Little



- Completion of BBBS enrollment processes and surveys
- Participation with BBBS staff, parent/guardian on developing goals and objectives
- Maintain appropriate behavior while with their Big
- Make efforts to achieve goals and objectives
- Respond to BBBS Match
   Support contacts and adhere to
   BBBS policies
- Report any instances where they feel unsafe with their Big

#### **BBBS**



- Enrollment of volunteers and youth into BBBS mentoring program
- Identify potential matches and present match to volunteer and parents/guardians
- Facilitate match
  Introduction meeting
- Conduct Match Support



## Contact Us

Feel free to contact us with any questions.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Services, Inc.



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