



Big Brothers Big Sisters

OF GREY BRUCE

ANNUAL REPORT | 2020



"I cannot emphasize enough how much of an amazing experience it is to empower youth and watch them achieve their goals and dreams"

-Big Sister Steph

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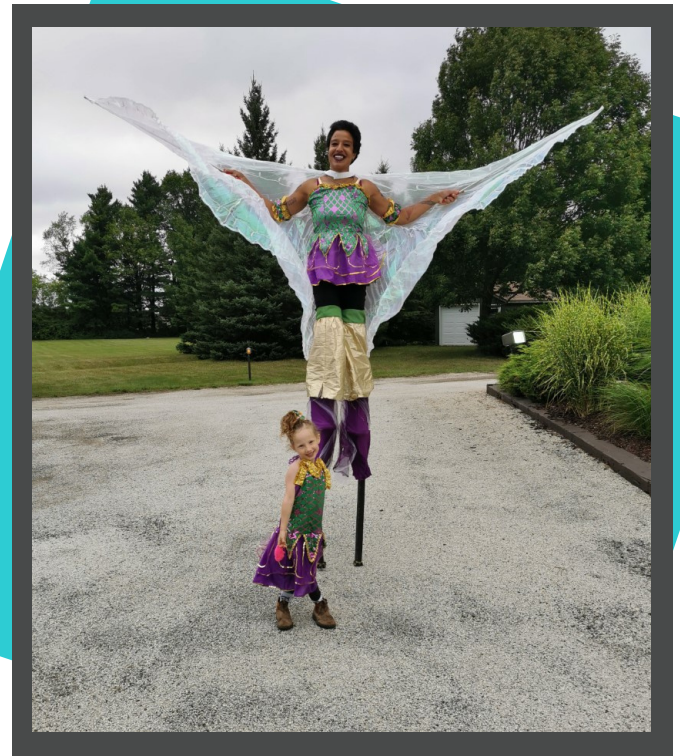
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"Covid-19 has added challenges, but we've been able to maintain a strong connection throughout."

-Big Brother Mike



"Every time I'm upset my Big Sister cheers me up. I am lucky to have a Big Sister."

-Little Sister Trinity

AGENCY INFORMATION

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Our Agency

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Grey Bruce has been enriching the lives of youth in the community since 1960. Our National organization was founded in 1903. Our roots run deep in this community; our local organization was one of the 10 founding members of Big Brothers of Canada.

In 2016 we transitioned from Big Brothers to Big Brothers Big Sisters. Our inclusion and expansion continued in 2019 when our area of coverage changed and we became Big Brothers Big Sisters of Grey Bruce.

Over the last 61 years we have been connecting local youth with a caring and supportive adult mentor. This adult role model guides, supports and cares for that individual through regular chats, visits, and fun outings. These developmental relationships prove how critical positive relationships are to an individual's success, mental health, growth, and well-being.

Many youth in our community face adversities in their daily lives, but these circumstances have nothing to do with the significance of who they are or who they can become. With the support of a mentor, risks can be reduced or avoided, and youth can begin to realize their full potential. It is evident that these relationships impact the life of the youth and enrich the mentor's own life, all while making our communities stronger. We are all "Bigger Together"!

"I enjoy playing and having fun with my Big Brother."

-Little Brother Lincoln



"I am so proud and happy with my Little Brother's progress learning to ski, ride a two-wheeler, changing from an introverted, quiet Little, into a wonderful talented outgoing chatterbox. I've always wanted to help others, and this allows me to be a big kid again."

-Big Brother Larry

Our Board Of Directors

- ANDY MCKEE, PRESIDENT →
- LLOYD MOHR, VICE PRESIDENT
- PETER BOULTER, TREASURER
- SASSAN AZAD, DIRECTOR
- GLENN BREADNER, DIRECTOR
- JEFF BRICK, DIRECTOR
- JASON FINCH, DIRECTOR
- MIKE FORCIER, DIRECTOR
- TYLER HOPKINS, DIRECTOR
- DONNA WHETSTONE, DIRECTOR
- STEPHANIE CONRAD, DIRECTOR



Message from Our President

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Grey Bruce has evolved to provide a high level of service to the children and youth in our communities during these unprecedented times. The support of our donors, volunteers, board members, and families has never been more needed and more appreciated.

Our incredibly dedicated staff members have made this possible. Even though we have not always been able to be physically together, our staff and active volunteers have continued to provide an essential service for the at-risk children and youth in Grey and Bruce.

Social media platforms, zoom calls, phone calls, weekly newsletters, porch drop offs of crafting materials and Covid friendly activities have helped Bigs and Littles to stay in touch. In some cases, it has actually increased the frequency of contact. It is especially important during these stressful times to focus on the well-being of the children and youth in our programs. Mentoring encourages self-esteem, healthy habits, positive mental health, and personal responsibility; vital for the Littles and their families.

I cannot emphasize enough the gratitude I feel towards our community and corporate sponsors, devoted volunteers, engaged Board members, and passionate staff for the outstanding support and dedication over the past year. Together we have made a difference for so many children and youth in our region.

Our Team

Mandi Lamb

Mentoring Coordinator

Warton local, Mandi Lamb, has her BA in Sociology and a Community Services Worker Diploma, and is currently working towards her Masters of Social Work. Mandi brings experience working in a number of child and youth social service settings. As Mentoring Coordinator, she shares her passion of the importance of mentoring and the incredible potential of the youth in our communities in everything she does.



Andrew Fry

Case worker/Training/Big Bunch

Andrew Fry was born and raised in Owen Sound and holds a Master of Social Work from the University of Windsor. Andrew is a Social Worker with Keystone Child, Youth and Family Services. Andrew Fry worked with BBBS Grey Bruce for 5 years, starting as our sole staff member, as a part-time Caseworker. In recent years Andrew focused on training mentors and helping out with Big Bunch activities. A busy work and family life, meant Andrew needed to refocus his energies. We will miss his support and energy. We wish him well!



Sarah Boyko

Placement Student

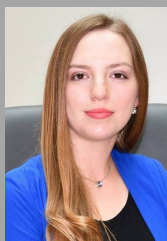
Sarah spent February and March of 2020 working with the team at BBBSGB. During her time with us, she focused on preparing the Go Girls program to help foster mental and physical wellness in participating youth. She also helped set up and organize our local bowling alley for Bowl for Kids' Sake 2020, where she was able to witness first hand the dedication that so many local volunteers have for youth in our community.



Cala Bryans

Agency Assistant

Cala is a graduate from the University of Waterloo with a BA in Legal Studies and a minor in Peace & Conflicts, Sociology, and Fine Arts. In the past, Cala has worked with youth with developmental disabilities and behavioural challenges. She has a huge heart for youth; specifically those who are facing difficulties. Being part of a team that makes a real difference in the lives of local youth fuels her passion to help others.



Kate Baker

Bookkeeper

Kate joined BBBS Grey Bruce in 2018 and trustingly served as our bookkeeper until August 2020. We thank her for her solid support!



Sue Hutchison

Bookkeeper

Sue joined our team at the end of 2020 and has been a great addition.



Mentoring Programs

Our programs looked a bit different this year due to the global pandemic, but the need in our community is still there. The challenges children and youth face do not stop, and neither will we. We offer many programs that have the power to transform a youth's path and encourage them to reach their full potential.

ONE-TO-ONE COMMUNITY MATCH

Our one-to-one mentoring program is our primary program, which focuses on matching Littles with a Big who is a nurturing and supportive role model. These developmental relationships are built on shared interests, which are established during regular outings.

This year there have been many obstacles for Bigs and Littles, as they had to find different ways to connect. The safety and well-being of the youth we serve, and their mentors, has always been our top priority. Therefore, visits between Bigs and Littles were limited. At times when restrictions were eased, Littles and Bigs visited safely by following public health recommendations. Outings consisted of bike rides, hikes and visits where the Big and Little were able to social distance. During the months where Bigs and Littles could not visit in-person due to government restrictions, they were still connecting virtually. During these times, Bigs and Littles met using a variety of social media tools, chatted on the phone, played online video games and did crafts via video.

IN SCHOOL MENTORING

The in-school mentoring program provides a Little (ages 6-16) with a role model who commits to one-on-one time for one hour, during school hours, within school grounds. The program provides a safe environment where Bigs and Littles can engage in conversation, play board games, and do crafts. By participating in non-academic activities, youth can have a fun relaxing space to develop self-esteem, improve literacy skills, and work on their social skills.



Some of our ISM matches started the year off steady but a lot changed when the pandemic hit. The majority of our matches were unable to continue or even start because of restrictions within the schools. Fortunately, there were a few matches that were able to stay connected virtually through phone calls and becoming pen pals.

GROUP MENTORING PROGRAMS

Our group mentoring programs create a supportive environment where youth can develop relationships and feel empowered. Game on, is one of these programs and is directed towards empowering youth to live smart, eat smart, and play smart. Go Girls is a similar program directed towards young girls. It concentrates on teaching girls to live healthy lifestyles by being physically active, focusing on balanced eating and building positive self-esteem.

Unfortunately, due to government restrictions and public health recommendations, group programs were unable to run this year.

BIG BUNCH PROGRAM

The Big Bunch program is a monthly event, for all Bigs and Littles to come together and have some fun. These group activities were mainly started to ensure Littles on the waiting list felt supported and had some fun while waiting to be matched with a caring Big.

Since we could not gather for any of our monthly fun activities, special Christmas packages were carefully created and then distributed for all of the Littles in our programs. There were lots of smiles to be had when youth received their gift.

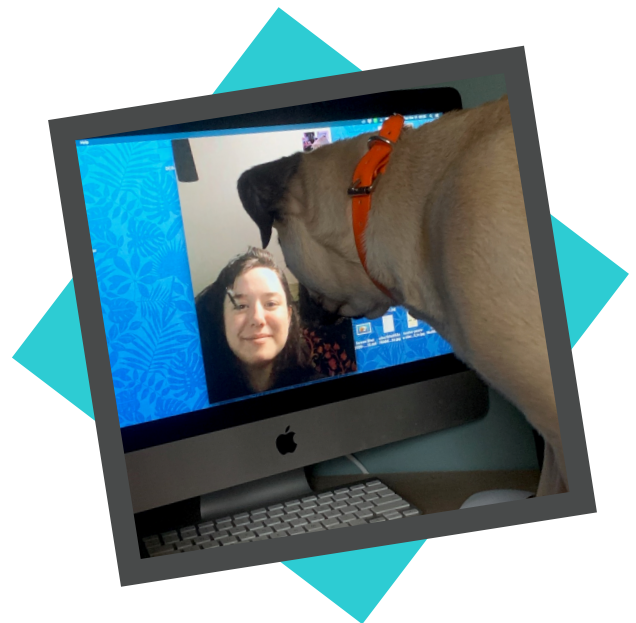
Agency Highlights

Although this year we had to adapt to the ever-changing conditions of our world, our mission to empower every child and youth who need our services in Grey and Bruce counties never faltered.

- We matched Bigs and Littles in more communities throughout Grey and Bruce Counties.
- We welcomed several new major premium sponsors.
- We held a successful Bowl for Kids' Sake event prior to the pandemic and modified Golf for Kids' Sake event later in the year, both of which had a positive response from the community.
- Our BBBS Grey Bruce's Bigs and Littles and Board of Directors members continued to support OSHaRE by volunteering monthly.
- Paisley Blues Festival invited us to participate in their Guitar Lending Program for Youth, where Bigs and Littles can borrow a guitar kit for 3 months at no cost, and learn how to play guitar with the help of an online teaching program.
- Partnered with the Denis Bester Memorial Derby organizers and graciously received a portion of the proceeds from their event.
- Hosted a new virtual fundraiser, Bake for Kids' Sake, which provided a lot of public awareness via social media and was enjoyed by all who participated.
- Partnered with Bognor Jam Production, Promotion & Consulting who held a music concert at the Hanover Drive-In featuring Bruce Worthington Band and Juanita and The Big Deal. They generously donated most of the proceeds to our agency.
- Became a partner and benefactor of BBBS of Ontario's BiggerTogether 50/50 Raffles, which allowed us to generate monthly funds.
- Created and distributed an electronic weekly newsletter to all Bigs and Littles to provide ideas and activities and safety information during the pandemic.



"We can't wait to hear all of the amazing music that the Bigs and Littles are able to make after learning the guitar!"
-Mentoring Co-ordinator Mandi



PREMIUM SPONSORS- We Thank you!

It is only with the generous and compassionate support within our communities, that we are able to touch so many lives through our mentoring programs. All of the funds and donations we receive are critical to helping pursue our mission. We welcome this opportunity to publicly acknowledge our deep gratitude to community members, businesses, and various agencies that have supported us. With you, we are Bigger Together!



THE BURNS-DURKACZ
FAMILY



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CORPORATE SPONSORS-We Thank You!



COMMUNITY FUNDING PARTNERS



An agency of the Government of Ontario
Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

Van Dolder Family
Charitable Foundation



Agency Funding Friends

We Thank You!

Azad Medica Inc.	Leon's Furniture
Baker Tilly SGB LLP	LiUNA Local 1059
Barry's Construction	Mac Taylor Corporation
Bayshore Country Feeds	Manulife Securities
Bellwyck	Mark's Automotive Service
Bergeron Automotive	Maurice Mechanical
BMO Nesbitt Burns	Nathaniel's Restaurant
Brian McKibbin Construction	Nicol Insurance Inc.
Caframo	Owen Sound Attack Hockey Club
Canadian Collector	Owen Sound Legion Branch #6
Casero Kitchen Table	ProPower Canada
Chapman's Ice Cream	Pet Smart
Concept Signs	RAM Promotional
Daisy's Clay House	Richard's No Frills
Drury Barrister and Solicitor	Shorty's Bar and Grill
Foodland	TD Mobile Mortgage
Forcier Grant Deakin	The Bowling Alley
Freshii	The Curry House
GSS Engineering	Turbit Pharmasave
Hair 2000	Wakeford and Company
King & Associates	Wendy's
Kreatif Designs	Williamsford Motopark
Leeder Family Fund	Quick Print

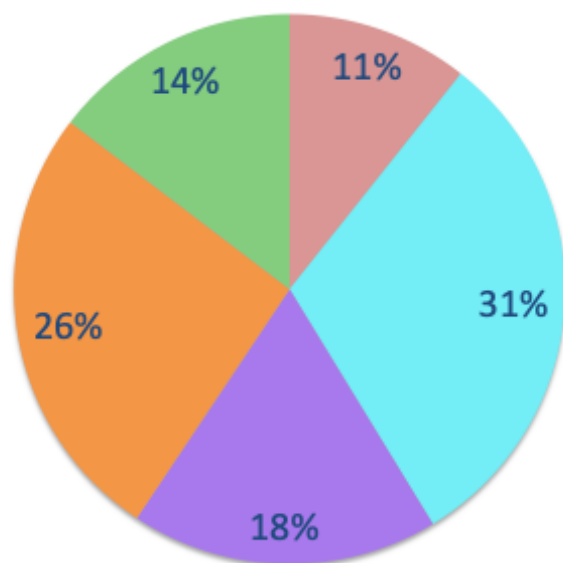


"I am grateful to have had the opportunity to be a Big Sister and have spent the last two years getting to know an amazing young woman."

-Big Sister Hiba

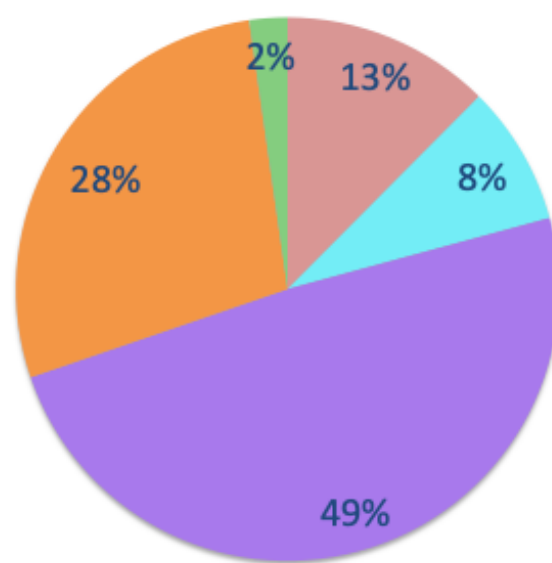
Financial Highlights

2020



Corporate Donations
Public Donations
Grants
Fundraising
Other

2019



Corporate Donations
Public Donations
Grants
Fundraising
Other

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS	2020	2019	2018
Revenue	159,172	\$151,750	\$194,227
Expenditures	112,388	\$131,189	\$178,379
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures	\$46,784	\$20,561	\$15,848
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION			
Assets	127,407	\$41,818	\$59,656
Liabilities	46,959	\$8,155	\$10,187
Net Assets	\$80,448	\$33,663	\$49,469



AGENCY INFORMATION

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