

# Big Brothers Big Sisters OF GREY BRUCE

**ANNUAL REPORT (2021)** 



"She taught me how to take care of myself- mentally, physically, and emotionally - and that impact has lasted a lifetime" -Former Little Sister



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Agency information

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### **OUR AGENCY**

As one of the initial ten charter Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies incorporated in Canada in 1960, Big Brothers Bigs Sisters of Grey Bruce (BBBSGB) has been serving youth and families throughout rural Grey and Bruce communities for over 60 years. Transitioning to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Owen Sound in 2016 and again expanding our reach in 2019 to Grey and Bruce, we are proud to have deep roots within the community.

As a mentorship organization, we believe in **investing in the potential of all young people** and have witnessed our mentorship programs do just that. As an organization, it is our collective mission to promote the healthy development of all children and youth within our communities through a variety of high quality, volunteer-based, mentoring programs. With a focus on preventative care and early intervention, **BBBSGB promotes emotional wellbeing and supports positive mental health** through meaningful, trusting, and long-term mentoring relationships.

Both our in school, community based and group programs work to match young people facing adversity with well-informed, trained, accepting, and diverse adults with the proven outcome of promoting resiliency and increasing health and wellbeing in youth across time.







THAT'S THE POWER OF THREE

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Enable life-changing mentoring relationships to ignite the power and potential of young people.

### **OUR VISION-**

All young people realize their full potential.

"I had the pleasure of joining Big Brother Big Sisters Grey Bruce in July of 2021 and the experience has been incredibly positive. The organization has seen significant growth in just a few short years and I am excited to be a part of our continued expansion. The need for preventative, community-based approaches is something I have long been passionate about so it is incredibly special to join an organization that's doing just that."

-Beth Aubrey, Executive Director

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### **Meet our Board of Directors:**

We want to thank our dedicated Board of Directors for their belief in and support of children and youth across Grey and Bruce.

Andy McKee Lloyd Mohr Emma Martin Peter Boulter Jeff Brick Jarvis Strong Tyler Hopkins Stephanie Jones Donna Whetstone Glenn Breadner



President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Director
Director
Director
Director
Director
Director
Director
Director
Director

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

-A mentor is someone who allows you to see the hope inside yourself

2021 was a year of hope. As we navigated year two of the COVID-19 pandemic, our organization relied heavily on the communication of hope to motivate our families, volunteers and stakeholders to continue to believe in the mission of BBBSGB.

With hope at the forefront of the work that we do, BBBSGB was able to achieve continued growth. We acquired a new Executive Director, Beth Aubrey, who helped lead our staff team to "expanding" new heights, with an inclusive and diverse approach. Many thanks to our "small but mighty" staff team for their tireless work and efforts and a heartfelt goodbye to our longstanding president Andy McKee.

Our programs and services were made possible both indoors and outdoors for our young people, thanks to our committed volunteers along with our community and corporate sponsors. Our Littles shared stories of hope, resilience and inspiration often through virtual means, with their Bigs.

They developed new hobbies such as gardening, writing and drawing with the continued down time together, even when physically apart.

I would like to thank our dedicated Board of Directors for their passion, integrity and insight, to all of which steer our organization forward in a positive and meaningful way. I look forward to another inspirational year ahead and am hopeful for all of the BIG things 2022 has in store for BBBSGB!

Emma Martin BBBSGB, President

# PROGRAMS & SERVICES

ONE-TO-ONE COMMUNITY MATCH

The 1:1 Community match program is the 'traditional' BBBS program; matching a youth (Little) with a caring, supportive adult mentor (Big) in the community. Bigs and Littles spend a minimum of 8 hours per month together enjoying our communities; engaging in activities like biking, tobogganing, swimming, crafting, playing board games, hiking, baking, and so many more. Bigs and Littles all report that they learn so much from each other, and the relationships empower youth to use their voices, build self-esteem, and have someone that is there for them when needed. Covid-19 continued to interfere with in-person meetings throughout 2021, but matches were able to continue connecting virtually when required as well as get together in person, outdoors!

#### 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. The ISM program continued to be a challenge with Covid-19, but we were able to run the program; with a co-op student being matched with a number of youth.









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# PROGRAMS & SERVICES CONT.

**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. During 2021, the group program was on hold due to restrictions.

#### **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. This year, every youth and mentor received a Christmas gift and acknowledgment. We participated in the Kiwanis Santa Clause Parade again in 2021, and had a wonderful time decorating the float and spending time together within the community.

"I can honestly say that every time I talk to a Big, Little, or their families, I feel my heart warm just a little more. The connections that are made and the mutual learning that happens within a match are so incredible - mentoring matters, and I am so blessed to be a part of this organization" 
Mandi Lamb, Mentoring Coordinator









### **YEARLY HIGHLIGHTS**

A story about coming together.

BBBSGB was the Denis Bester Memorial Shootout 'Charity of Choice' for the second year!

Our community and sponsors work hard to show up for kids across Grey and Bruce!

Thanks to the support of local businesses, Bigs, Littles and schools across Grey and Bruce, we got in the Halloween spirit with 'Coins for Kids'.

Our annual 'Golf for Kids Sake' was a success. selling out with 108 golfers! BIG thanks to Scotia Wealth Management for their sponsorship!

BBBSGB welcomed a new
Executive Director!

This year, we received 76 new service requests, expanding our services, impact and reach!

Our Secret Santa meant every youth, including the over 50 youth on our waitlist, received a hand selected, personalized gift on Christmas morning this year.

'Bowl for Kids Sake' went virtual, raising over '20K in a day' for youth across Grey and Bruce. Thank you to Bruce Power for their sponsorship!

Board and staff participated in the joint development of a formal Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion policy and statement.

Youth put on their baking hats and so did we! Thanks to local chefs, Zach Keeshig and Gilles Hache, bakers Lily, Grace, Kaitlyn, and Emma were awarded our Creative Geniuses!

> Littles and Bigs had to get creative meeting up this year but connections remained strong!

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# FUNDRAISERS & EVENTS

Fundraising and events looked different this year but we were still able to run our Bowl for Kids Sake and Golf For Kids Sake events. With many familiar faces and new additions this year, 2021 proved to be a success. All funds raised went directly towards ensuring our mentorship services continue to meet the needs of children and youth across Grey and Bruce. See you all in 2022!



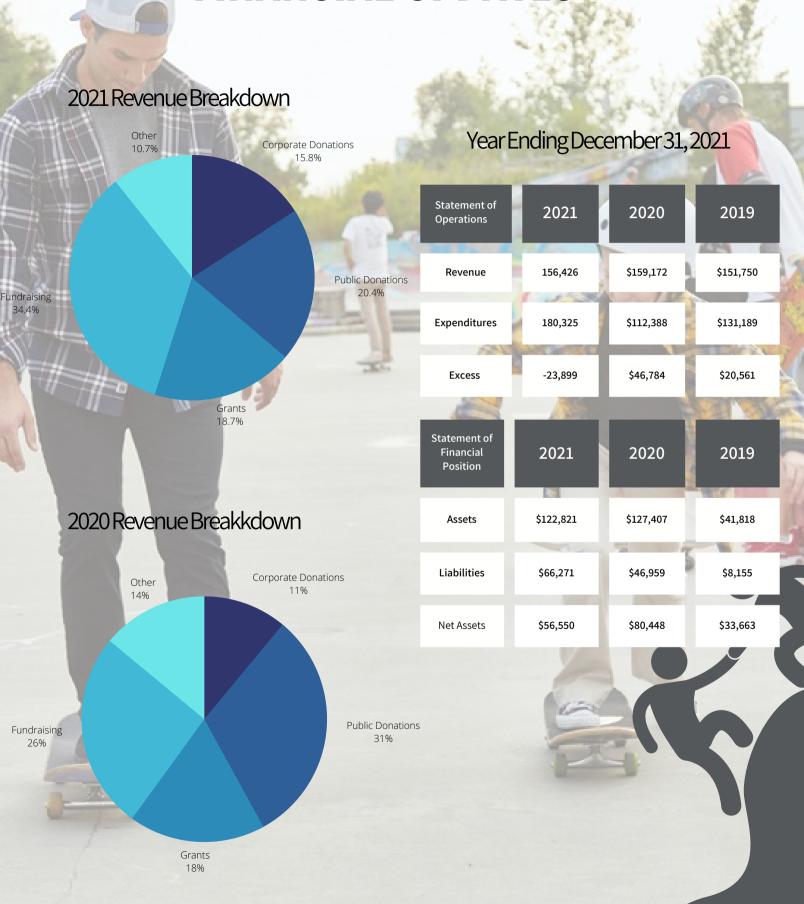




"The support of our community behind us at every fundraiser event, investing in the lives of young people in our community, shows me time and time again that together we have an immense impact on youth. Our annual fundraising events bring in critical funds that help sustain our mentoring programs all year; we would not be able to support our growing programs without help. To all of you, thank you for your generosity, your time and participation. We are truly BiggerTogether!"

- Cala Bryans, Community Development Coordinator

## FINANCIAL UPDATES



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## **OUR VALUED SPONSORS**

**Community Funding Partners** 

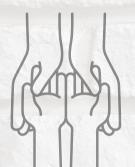








VAN DOLDER FAMILY
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION



# **OUR VALUED SPONSORS**

**Corporate Funding Partners** 



Innovation at work











HOME BUILDERS & TRADES ASSOCIATION





Scotia

Wealth Management

THE SUN TIMES



**ROGERS** tv.

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# Our valued Bronze and Friend Sponsors

### **BRONZE**

Baker Tilly	MacLeod Farley & Associates
Barry's Construction	Meridian
Brian McKibbon Construction	Ministry of Education
Caframo	Nicol Insurance Inc.
Elementary Teachers Federation	Prentice Plumbing and Heating Inc.
Graham Design and Construction	ProPower Canada
Grey Bruce Law	TG Group Inc.
Huron Tractor	Troy Life & Fire Safety Ltd.
J.D. McArthur Tire Service Inc.	Walker Aggregates & Construction
LiUNA Local 1059	West Grey Chamber of Commerce
Mac Taylor Corporation	

### FRIEND

Bayshore Country Feeds Ltd.	Mark's Automotive Service
Bellwyck Packaging Solutions	Maurice Mechanical
Bergeron Automotive Inc.	Southampton Olive Oil Company
Casero Kitchen Table	The Water Store
Drury Barrister & Solicitor	Thornbury Home Hardware Building Centre
GSS Engineering Consultants Ltd.	Tom Greenaway Plumbing
Hair 2000	Turbitt Pharmasave
John A. Tamming Professional Corporation	United Way of Greater Toronto
Kreatif Designs	Wakeford and Company CPA Professional
	Corporation
Markdale Golf & Country	Wiarton Rotary Club Children's Foundation

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### **IN-KIND**

Accountability	Legacy Ridge Golf Course
Allan Avis Architects Inc.	Leslie Myers Medicine Professional
	Corporation
Aveda Hair Salon	M&M Meat Food Market
Canada Web Solutions	Markdale Flowers
Chapman's	Markdale Golf & Country Club
Certarus Ltd.	McDonald's (Owen Sound)
Chicory Commons	Metro (Owen Sound)
Coates & Best Inc.	Michaels (Owen Sound)
Cobble Beach Golf Link	Miller's Sauble Beach Home Hardware
Coca-Cola Canada Bottling Limited	Moore's Meats Butcher Shop
CR Plastics Inc.	Wholesale Club
COPA Flight 68-Wiarton Airport	Owen Sound Attack
Cruickshank Willing Workers	Pebbles Family Buffet
Dairy Queen (Owen Sound)	Pet Supply Warehouse
DareArts	PJ Knickerbockers
Deals Surplus Store	Port Elgin Home Hardware Building Centre
Dockside Willie's	RAM Promotional
East Side Mario's (Owen Sound)	Richard's No Frills
Essential Cleaning Co.	Scenic City Game Emporium
Family Ascent Aerial Park	Sheet Metal Workers' International
	Association Local 473
Freshii Owen Sound	Staples (Owen Sound)
Fretz's value-mart	Story Book Park
Foodland (Owen Sound)	Stow-it Self Storage (Port Elgin)
Fun in the Sun Southampton Ice Cream	Subway (1565 St E Owen Sound)
Georgian College Student's Association	Subway (955 10th St. W Owen Sound)
Giant Tiger (Owen Sound)	The Curry House
Grandma Lambe's	The Giddy Goblin
Grey Bruce OPP	The Rocking Horse
Ground Control	Tim Hortons (1595 16th St E Owen Sound)
Harmony Centre Owen Sound	Tony Miller Bliss Studio
Heather Dixon's Dance and Fitness Studio	Turtle Crossing Toy Store
Hunt Trucking	Wendy's (Owen Sound)
IG Wealth Management	Wiarton Bluffs Golf Club
IRIS Optometrists and Opticians	Wiarton Home Hardware Building Centre
Joe Tomato's Restaurant (Owen Sound)	Wiarton Family Chiropractic Centre
Klym Dentistry Professional Corporation	Zehrs (Owen Sound)

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