



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters**
OF LEEDS AND GRENVILLE



ANNUAL REPORT

2023

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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

As my tenure as President of the Board of Directors comes to an end, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the past five years and express my gratitude for the trust you have placed in me. I am both honored and humbled to have had the opportunity to serve in this role.

Over the past five years we have faced numerous challenges and celebrated many successes together. It has been a privilege to work alongside each of you, and I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for your dedication, support, and collaboration during my time as Board President.

During my tenure, we have implemented a new strategic plan, hired a new ED, brought our policies and procedures up to date, and have improved our staff retention. Navigating the complexities of the pandemic, adapting to the ever-evolving community we live and work in, the agency has demonstrated resilience, innovation, and a commitment to excellence.

As I transition into the role of Past President, I am excited to continue supporting our organization's mission and vision. While I may no longer hold the title of President, my commitment to our board and the broader community remains unwavering. I look forward to providing guidance and support to our new leadership and assisting in a seamless transition.

I am confident the board will continue to steer our organization toward new heights of success. Together, we will face future challenges with the same determination and spirit that have defined our collective efforts thus far.

I have every confidence that our organization's future is bright, and I am excited to be part of it.

LISA REID
BOARD PRESIDENT



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we reflect on the past year at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Leeds and Grenville, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude. The support and dedication of our volunteers, staff, and community partners have been nothing short of extraordinary. Thanks to your unwavering commitment, we have continued to make a profound impact in the lives of children and youth across our region. Each success story and every positive change witnessed is a testament to the collective effort of all those involved in our mission.

This year, we have seen remarkable growth in our programs and services, with an increase in both the number of matches and the depth of support provided to our youth. We have introduced new initiatives aimed at addressing emerging needs and challenges, ensuring that our services remain relevant and effective. Our focus on personalized mentoring and community engagement has proven successful, creating lasting, positive relationships that foster personal growth and development for our young people.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the opportunities and potential that the future holds. We are committed to expanding our reach and enhancing our programs to better serve the diverse needs of our community. Our strategic plans for the coming year include strengthening our partnerships, investing in staff development, and exploring innovative approaches to mentorship. We believe that by continuing to evolve and adapt, we can further amplify our impact and continue to inspire and empower the youth we serve.

In closing, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed to our success this year. Your support, whether through volunteering, financial contributions, or advocacy, is the cornerstone of our achievements. Together, we are building a brighter future for the children and youth of Leeds and Grenville, and I am deeply grateful for your continued partnership and dedication to our mission. Let's move forward together, with renewed energy and commitment, as we continue to make a difference in our community.

With gratitude and optimism,



BEV HEUVING
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2023 IN REVIEW



ONE TO ONE - 51



Our core one-to-one mentoring provides lifelong, positive impact, protecting youth from the harm of adverse childhood experiences. This year we have supported 29 Community-Based matches and 22 In-School matches.

COMMUNITY BASED GROUP - 81

This year we have various group programs available to youth including Teen Drop-In at the Brockville Public Library, March Break Camp, PRISM, Summer Family Fun Fridays, and Monthly Jr. Youth Nights at the Kemptville Youth Centre.

SITE BASED GROUP - 195

We partnered with local schools to deliver our "Safe Spaces" group programming to youth. The program was designed to foster attitudes of positive motivation, increased self-awareness and self-confidence as well as feelings of safety, belonging and worth.

327
YOUTH SERVED

2000+
HOURS VOLUNTEERED

1000+
CHECK-INS TO SUPPORT WELL-BEING OF PARTICIPANTS

“

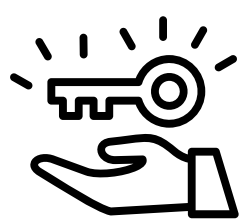
I love my Big Sister, she really cares about me.

DEVELOPMENTAL RELATIONSHIPS*



CHALLENGES GROWTH

98% of young people feel their mentor pushes them to be better



EXPANDS POSSIBILITY

84% of young people feel their mentor helps them make new connections and expands perspectives



EXPRESSES CARE

99% of young people feel their mentor shows them that they matter



PROVIDE SUPPORT

95% of young people feel their mentor helps them set and complete tasks and goals



SHARE POWER

98% of young people feel their mentor treats them with respect and listens to their ideas.

**A developmental relationship is a close connection between a young person and an adult or between a young person and a peer that powerfully and positively shapes the young person's identity and helps the young person develop a thriving mindset.*

“

I feel like my mentor really understands me. She encourages me without pushing me past my comfort zone.

AMANDA'S MENTORING STORY

I love being a Big Sister! It is such a fulfilling experience to be a good role model for my Little Sister, while getting to do fun activities. We love to craft and draw together, go to the park, go swimming at the beach and in my pool, and especially getting ice cream together.

My Little Sister gives me the opportunity to see the world through a child's eyes again. She pushes me to do things I wouldn't normally do as an adult - like jumping in the pool instead of wading in, or breaking out into song and dance with her. We talk about things going on in her life, and I know she sees me as a safe person. What I enjoy most about our time together is that it's meant to be fun. We have serious talks sometimes, but we also play a lot of tag and hide and seek. I don't have to try and be her teacher/counsellor/parent, my job is to just have fun with her, while being a positive role model.

I've been curious about the Big Brothers Big Sisters program for quite some time, and finally decided to go for it this spring. I couldn't be happier with my decision! The team at BBBSLG is incredibly supportive, and they even provide us with a calendar of free/low-cost events and some activity supplies every month.

This program is life changing not only for the Littles, but for the Bigs as well!

-Big Sister, Amanda



OUR SUPPORTERS

LEGACY BUILDERS (\$10,000+)

John Hartry Foundation
Home Depot Canada Foundation
United Way of Leeds and Grenville
Government of Ontario
Carolyn Sifton Foundation
Estate of Ivan Pyke
Ontario Trillium Foundation

MENTOR'S CIRCLE (\$3000+)

CIBC Foundation
The Butcher Shop
Brockville Hyundai
3M Brockville
Anonymous Donor
Scotiabank
Wills Transfer

St. Lawrence College
Anonymous Donor



MATCH MAKERS (\$500+)

Maycourt Club of Brockville
Kawartha Credit Union
Township of Leeds and the
Thousand Islands
McDougall Insurance
Molson Coors Beverage Company
Coca-Cola Kingston Bottling

Zigman Metals
Howard Travel
Billings Automotive
Canarm
Greenfield Global
Northern Cables
1000 Islands Restaurant & Pizzeria

At Your Door Spa Services
Skyward Active Health
Happy Green Acres
Splash Well Drilling
ILP ATM
Layer 8 Solutions

BBBSLG SUPPORT NETWORK



1000 Islands RV Center · 401 Electric · Aaron's Mill · All You Need Music · Bell Media · BOLDT Dance Studio · Yes FM
· BPFPA · Brockville Public Library · Brockville Arts Centre · Brockville Police · Campbell's Towing · Brockville Canadian
Tire · Centennial Road Church · Chartwell Wedgewood · City of Brockville · Leeds and the Thousand Islands Fire
Department · Dejardin Insurance · Front of Yonge Fire Department · DBIA · Dr. Ng · St. John's Ambulance · Girls
Incorporated of Upper Canada · Newterra · Ferguson Tree Nursery · Foster's Family Farm · Freedom RV · G.C. Hudson
Supply · Giant Tiger · Hammond LLP · Henderson Digital Marketing · Hometown TV12 · JJ's Country Diner · John Howard
Society · RNJ Youth Services · Kemptville Physiotherapy Centre · Ketchum Manufacturing · Kriska · Leclerc · Leeds
Grenville Paramedics · Miracle Maids · Modern Brock Realty · Limerick Environmental Services · P38 Energy
· Pharmasave Brockville · Pharmasave Spencerville · Pier Church · Pillers · Planet Fitness · Prescott Family Health Team
· Remax · Rossy · Shoeless Joe's Kemptville · Snap Fitness · Sunbelt Rentals · Sutton Realty · South Grenville Food Bank · The
Bar · Toshack · 1000 Islands Toyota · Trillium Health Care Products · Weagant Farm Supplies · Westjet · G. Tackaberry &
Sons · Chevron Construction · Arbru Solar Brewery · Wick Witch Apothecary · Mrs. McGarrigle's Fine Food Shop · The
Goose and Gridiron · Brewing Oasis · The Village Pantry · Laushway Law · Baldachin Inn · Evergreen Golf Course · Giant
Tiger · Upper Canada Playhouse · Iroquois Golf Club · The Country Cove Inn · Mark's Work Warehouse Brockville · River
West. Co. · Green Things · Canadian Tire Prescott · Wild Little Roses · Wags, Whiskers & Wings · Your TV · Drive Point
Rental & Leasing · Evolution Property Management · Have Tents Will Travel · After 8 Catering · Starbucks (Brockville)
· Township of Augusta · Town of Prescott · 4Life Fitness Rosie's Eats and Tasty Treats · Connect Youth · First Christian
Reformed Church · Rock Island Camp Seniors Resort Inc. · BCI · Brockville Kelsey's · South Gate Church · Brockville
Kinsmen · The Aquatarium · Skeddadle Escape Rooms · Sequence Gaming · Katrina's Coffee Shop · Treetop Trekking
· Cowan's · Sweet Life Cafe

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE

President - Lisa Reid

Vice President - Chrissy Sabaziotis

Treasurer - Greg Stilnovich

Secretary - Dione Cyr

DIRECTORS

Tyler Willoughby

Sarah Clarke

Lucas Blancher

Dario Bellai

Fiona Goodman

Dana Halladay



WE IGNITE YOUTH POTENTIAL

DEDICATED. MOTIVATED. PASSIONATE. INSPIRED. COMMITTED.

STAFF

Bev Heuving - Executive Director

Vanessa Martin - Community Engagement Specialist

Allison Reid - Event Coordinator

Taylor Brown - Mentoring Coordinator for Brockville & Leeds

Emily Black - Mentoring Coordinator for Grenville

Ryan Ferneyhough - Bookkeeper





“

I am so thankful for my daughter's mentor and everything she is teaching her. She is so lucky to have her.

-BBBSLG Parent

“

Thank you so much BBBSLG for letting me meet such an incredible and inspiring person!

-BBBSLG Mentee



“

BBBS is amazing, it is the best thing I have involved my family in.

-BBBSLG Parent





"Don't underestimate the power of simply being there for someone!"



ENABLING LIFE-CHANGING MENTORING RELATIONSHIPS TO
IGNITE THE POWER AND POTENTIAL OF YOUNG PEOPLE.



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters**
OF LEEDS AND GRENVILLE

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<https://leeds.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca>

Charitable Number: 139 220 164 RR0001

