TOGETHER, WE ARE DEFENDERS OF POTENTIAL

We ask people of all ages and backgrounds to STEP UP and IGNITE POTENTIAL within every young person.
A MESSAGE FROM
THE CEO

At Big Brothers Big Sisters, our day-to-day work is ever-changing, but our commitment to helping young people build a better future is always consistent. We open our doors every day to young people. We’re determined to give them the extra support they need and deserve. They need caring adults in their lives. They want to be seen, known, heard, and loved. Together, with parents, mentors, teachers and community partners, we offer them more love, fun, support, and direction. We partner with our community to be a family and provide one to one mentoring to youth that inspires their potential.

Being a family requires teamwork, and we have an incredible team of staff and volunteers—so incredible that our Agency was selected as Agency of the Year by Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. A BIG thank you and appreciation to our staff, all of whom are committed to quality and excellence.

Through our volunteers, donors, and families, we have accomplished so much, but research and experience indicates the youth of today often struggle with a knowledge gap of the pathways to certification and post-secondary education attainment. The gap widens without the guidance of a mentor and known resources. Our Big Futures and Beyond School Walls programs target youth without the guidance and resources to connect to a pathway that leads to a productive, rewarding, and financially self-sufficient adulthood. In turn, the local community benefits tremendously from its academically enriched young adults who have reached their potential, and are now capable of giving back to their community. Join our efforts to boost the success of our youth in their forward pathway to adulthood. Consider becoming a mentor or providing a workplace mentoring opportunity for high school youth.

—Joy Mahler

FENDERS OF POTENTIAL

OUR VISION
All youth achieve their full potential

OUR MISSION
Create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth
Being involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters is an incredibly rewarding experience. You realize that you can make a difference in a youth’s life and that is a very powerful thought. Being able to possibly change someone’s trajectory in life is a humbling, moving and satisfying feeling that I hope more people take the opportunity to experience. As a partner in the Beyond School Walls program, the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort & Spa is thrilled to get the chance for our team members to give back to the community that it serves. I would highly recommend others in the community to get involved as well!“

—BRIAN KRAMER, GENERAL MANAGER
HYATT REGENCY COCONUT POINT RESORT & SPA
BIG IMPACT

DECISIONS TO WIN
An adult mentor from the community works one-to-one with a high school student in this focused, intensive course consisting of an 18-lesson workbook on personal decision-making.

ninety-five percent
OF THE STUDENTS THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAM EITHER GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL OR WERE PROMOTED TO THE NEXT GRADE.

JUVENILE JUSTICE MENTORING INITIATIVE
The program provides prevention and early intervention specialized mentoring services to youth who are at high risk of entering the juvenile justice system and those who have already made contact with the system.

95 percent
OF YOUTH IN THE PROGRAM AVOIDED TRUANCY

GATEWAY TO SUCCESS
This initiative supports at-risk students as they transition from middle school to high school, the single most influential intervention point to high school completion. A series of “success” activities focuses on academic support, self-esteem, motivation, and career awareness.

96%
OF THE AT-RISK STUDENTS WERE PROMOTED TO THE NEXT GRADE

BEYOND SCHOOL WALLS
High school students meet with their mentors in a business setting, giving students the opportunity to experience what it means to work for a corporation, learn business etiquette, and identify educational requirements for professional success.

92 PERCENT
OF SENIORS COMPLETING THE PROGRAM ARE CONTINUING THEIR EDUCATION, JOINED THE MILITARY OR ENTERED THE WORKFORCE.

SPORTS BUDDIES
An inspiring opportunity for Bigs and Littles to enjoy sports together. Sports teach life skills, goal setting, character development and sportsmanship. The Big and Little meet twice a month to participate in or attend a sporting event, with free or reduced price tickets.

925
TICKETS WERE DONATED TO THE PROGRAM WITH 96% MATCH PARTICIPATION

READING BIGS
Designed to foster a love of literature and aid in the development of grade-level reading skills for students at risk of failing Florida’s standardized reading tests, Reading Bigs improves reading skills through a variety of activities specific to the child’s reading level and is monitored by Big Brothers Big Sisters and the child’s teacher to ensure progress.

95 percent
OF THE CHILDREN MAINTAINED OR IMPROVED READING PROFICIENCY

BIG FUTURES
This professionally-supported mentoring bridge provides continued guidance to the 10th–12th grade youth the agency currently serves until they reach age 21, thereby placing them on a career pathway to sustainable independence.

92
OF THE YOUTH WHO REMAIN MATCHED WITH THEIR MENTOR THROUGH BIG FUTURES AFTER HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION ARE EITHER ENROLLED IN A HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION OR GAINFULLY EMPLOYED.

95%
OF THE SENIORS COMPLETING THE PROGRAM ARE CONTINUING THEIR EDUCATION, JOINED THE MILITARY OR ENTERED THE WORKFORCE.
Venice Regional Bayfront Health was the first organization in the area to participate in the Big Brothers Big Sisters’ “Beyond School Walls” program. This is our third year hosting the program. Big Brothers Big Sisters has done an excellent job of pairing the Littles with individual clinical and non-clinical Venice Regional Directors according to each Little’s point of interest. The Littles gain a well-rounded understanding of the inner workings of a hospital throughout the school year through this experiential learning opportunity. As a result, many of them are now pursuing careers in healthcare.

—BOB HITE, COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENT OUTREACH DIRECTOR
VENICE REGIONAL BAYFRONT HEALTH
Received a **Perfect 4.0** audit score in both program and financial outcomes for Florida Department of Education-funded matches

100% of program staff are certified by Big Brothers Big Sisters of America

Impact the lives of **1,815** children facing adversity in 2018–2019

Received Charity Navigator’s highest four-star rating for sound fiscal management

Big Brothers Big Sisters of America

**CURRENT LITTLES**

- **94%** maintained or improved relationships with peers, family and other adults
- **92%** maintained or improved their academic performance
- **92%** maintained or improved their attitude toward school
- **93%** maintained or improved a sense of their future

**OUR ALUMNI**

- **86%** agreed their Big helped them reach a higher level of education than they thought possible
- **91%** of the seniors continued their education, entered the military or obtained employment upon their high school graduation
- **77%** reported doing better in school because of their Big
Big Brother JT & Little Brother Axel
Creating the Perfect Match

$100 Child Enrollment
Interviewing the child and parent to create the optimal match based on needs, personality and interests

$75 Volunteer Enrollment
Reference checks, interviews, home visits, orientation approval

$275 Volunteer Forums and Training
Provides workshops and training to give volunteers valuable insight and guidance in their mentoring experience

$500 Supporting the Match
Connecting with the Little, the Big, and the parent on a consistent basis to offer ideas to strengthen the relationship, troubleshoot issues and ensure child safety

$250 Program Activities
Fun and educational activities for the matches’ participation

$300 Success Initiatives
Help specific populations of youth obtain success in academics, e.g., youth at risk of not achieving grade-level reading, promotion, or high school graduation
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast serves 10 counties in Florida.

As of June 2019, 1,815 youth were matched with a Big Brother or Big Sister, and 163 are ready for a Big.

Funds provided by:
- Government/County: 20%
- Special Events: 22%
- Foundations & Trusts: 18%
- United Way: 8%
- Endowment: 1%
- Annual Gifts: 15%
- Bequests: 1%

Funds well spent:
- Programs: 90%
- Administration: 5%
- Fundraising: 5%

For a statement of activities, please visit www.bbbssun.org.

Children matched with a Big:
- 51% Male
- 49% Female

Adults matched with a Little:
- 40% Male
- 60% Female

Our littles come from many backgrounds:
- 40% White
- 33% Black
- 24% Hispanic/Latino
- 4% Other
I am very proud of Robiel and the young man he has become. He has taught me the art of patience and tolerance, which I know now that I had only dabbled in before. Being a Big Brother has built up my own self-confidence. In teaching Robiel, I have become a kinder, more aware and all-around better person.

Sama and I are lucky to have found each other. Our friendship has been mutually beneficial, and more emotionally impactful than I could have ever imagined. I am honored to be in her life, to help her see the abilities within herself, to listen, and to give her a bigger picture of the world. In turn, she has helped me to learn and grow, and to appreciate life’s differences. I am forever grateful to have been given this opportunity.
Planned gifts ensure the continuation of our landmark mentoring program. Planned giving is a great way to enhance your philanthropic goals while enabling you to address other financial and estate planning needs. A bequest or beneficiary designation will impact a child’s life for generations to come.

There is no minimum financial gift requirement and many planned gifts are made by simply adding Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast as a beneficiary. Please consider joining our Legacy Society to create one of the most important and powerful gifts, one that will ignite the power and promise of youth.

We thank the following members for their generosity:

Peter and Rita Anderson
Anthony Baldo
Doris Berkey
Bryan and Laurie Blackwell
Bruce Body
Kimberlie and Darryl Buchanan
Lee Byron
Dan and Lisa Carter
Jack Churilla
Andrea DelSanto
Robert Jay and Anne Doyle
Fred and Josephine Falkner
Susan Flynn
Katya Gutierrez and Jerome Sooklal
Gloria Hammer
Geo and Genie Hindall
George Kalbfleisch
Kathleen F. Cellura Foundation

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Joy Mahler
Christine McGrath
Anne Merrill
Suzanna A. Norbeck (Suzi)
Frank and Elaine Pagliaro
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Scott K. and Robin S. Petersen
Sara Peterson
Victoria Phillips
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Gabrielle G. Read
Richard and Carole Dee Ringfelt
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Doris and Irving Ross
Lois Schuhmacher
Carrie Collins Smith
Shelby Tudor
Ralph and Lena Vandenberg
Daniel E. Vigne
Albert L. and Charlotte R. Walonick
Wayne E. Warren
Robert and Ruth Werner
Terri West
Richard J. Windgassen
Barry and Donna Wolfson

“We are proud to support Big Brothers Big Sisters, an organization where 90% of the dollars raised goes directly into programs serving over 1,800 youth on an annual basis. These youth are vital to our community and the amazing staff and incredible volunteers who mentor and guide them are igniting their potential!”

—KIMBERLIE & DARRYL BUCHANAN
2018-2019 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Community Partners are companies, organizations or associations that encourage, support and create opportunities for their employees to become “Bigs.”

COLLIER
Arthrex
Collier County Sheriff’s Office
Lipman Produce
Naples Community Hospital
PBS Contractors
Collier County Public Schools
Naples Plumbing Studio
Coleman Yovanovich and Koester, PA

ENGLEWOOD
Church of Christ, Englewood East
Englewood Chamber of Commerce
Englewood United Methodist Church
Knights of Columbus Council 7672
Paradise Exclusive Real Estate
Rotary Club of Englewood
Rotary Club of Placida
Rotonda West Association
St. Francis of Assisi Church
YMCA of Englewood

HIGHLANDS/HARDEE
Highlands County Sheriff’s Office
School District of Highlands County
Highlands County YMCA
Champion for Children Foundation
Heartland National Bank

LEE/HENDRY
Comcast NBC Universal
Enterprise Holdings
FineMark National Bank & Trust
Florida Gulf Coast University
Gartner
Hyatt Regency Coconut Point
Lee County Sheriff’s Office
Lee Health
Publix Super Markets
The School District of Hendry County
The School District of Lee County
United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee Counties
WINK News

MANATEE
Air & Energy
Boys & Girls Club of Manatee County
Bradenton Kiwanis Club
Bradenton Marauders
Bradenton Police Department
CareerSource Suncoast
JPMorgan Chase & Company
Manatee Technical College
Resort Lifestyle Communities
School District of Manatee County

NORTH PORT
City of North Port
Culvers
Enterprise
Heron Creek Golf & Country Club
Holiday Park, Park and Recreation District
Kiwanis Club of North Port
La Casa Manufactured Home Community

PORT CHARLOTTE
Blue Heron Pines Golf Course
Cam Realty
Charlotte County Adult Education
Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office
Charlotte County United Way
Deep Creek Elks Club
Deep Creek Golf Course
First Alliance Church
Just Counters & Other Stuff
School District of Charlotte County
Sunrise Kiwanis Clubb

SARASOTA
Band, Gates & Dramis, P.L.
CAE Healthcare
City of Sarasota
Kerkering Barberio
Light of the World International Church
PNC Wealth Management
Sarasota County Government
Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Sarasota Young Professionals Group
School District of Sarasota County
Suncoast Community Church
Suncoast Digital
The Ritz-Carlton
Wells Fargo

VENICE
Calusa Lakes Golf Club
Christ United Methodist Church
Grace United Methodist Church
Plantation Golf & Country Club
Sharky’s on the Pier
Trinity Presbyterian Church
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Venice
Unity Church of Venice
Venetian Falls Homeowners Association
Venice Golf & Country Club
Venice Regional Bayfront Health
Venice United Church of Christ

Thank you to the following for their generous advocacy on our behalf:
Champion for Children Foundation
Community Foundation of Collier County
Community Foundation of Sarasota County
Gulf Coast Community Foundation
Manatee Community Foundation
Naples Children & Education Foundation
Southwest Florida Community Foundation
The Patterson Foundation
United Way of Central Florida
United Way of Charlotte County
United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee Counties
United Way of South Sarasota County
United Way Suncoast
Donor list as of June 30, 2019

We apologize if anyone was inadvertently left off of our donor list.
For more information about how you can impact a child’s life, contact the Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast office near you:

- **Englewood**: (941) 473-4003
- **North Port**: (941) 429-3727
- **Sarasota**: (941) 331-4376
- **Venice**: (941) 488-4009
- **Charlotte County**: (941) 764-5812
- **Collier County**: (239) 331-7133
- **DeSoto County**: (855) 501-BIGS (2447)
- **Highlands/Hardee County**: (863) 402-9001
- **Hendry County**: (855) 501-BIGS (2447)
- **Lee County**: (239) 288-4224
- **Manatee County**: (941) 746-7000

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**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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  Venice, FL 34285
- (941) 488-4009
  (855) 501-BIGS (2447)
- [www.bbbssun.org](http://www.bbbssun.org)
- [www.facebook.com/bbbssun](http://www.facebook.com/bbbssun)
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**Location Information**

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**On the cover: Jay and Terrell**