

Our mission is to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported 1-to-1 relationships that change their lives for the better, forever. We want all children to achieve success in life.

HOW IT WORKS

Big Brothers Big Sisters has been actively serving youth in the Big Bend area for over 46 years. Volunteers serve as mentors and role models to help youth increase their self-confidence, improve academically, reach their greatest potential, and see themselves as having happy and successful futures. Each match is fully supervised by professional staff for the life of the match so any issues can be address and progress can be tracked.

Many things happen before a match is made. After they express interest in a program, all of our Bigs go through a thorough background check and careful interview process. Big Brothers Big Sisters builds matches based on shared interests, personalities and preferences. Once matched, Big Brothers and Big Sisters develop friendships with their Little Brothers and Little Sisters that last a lifetime.



Community-Based Mentoring

Volunteer Requirements

- Must be a minimum of 18 years of age
- Minimum 12 month commitment from time of match
- Ability to commit to a minimum of 4 hours per month
- Valid/current car insurance including bodily injury and property damage
- Must be able to pass a series of background checks that may include driving history report, sexual offender/predator checks, and reference checks
- Must be able to pass a home safety assessment if required

Child Requirements

- Must be a minimum of 6 years of age and no older than 16
- Contact with a BBBS employee on a monthly basis for the life of the child's match
- *The Mentorship of Children of Prisoners program is available for any child that has a family member that is currently incarcerated or has been incarcerated. Please call for more details.**

Community-Based Mentoring is about one-to-one time spent between the volunteer and the child doing things out in the community they can both enjoy. Four hours a month are filled with shared interests and activities like: reading together, working on projects, playing games, sharing a meal, taking a walk,



or just hanging out and talking. The relationship promotes a positive learning experience for the child, which increases school attendance, positive peer and adult relationships, a positive attitude, and academic enrichment. The match meeting schedule can be flexible to meet the needs of mentors and young people in all types of situations. Some Bigs meet their Littles on the weekends or in the evenings. Others get together with their Littles after school.

In the Community-Based program, Big Brothers and Big Sisters provide children and youth with individualized time and attention on a regular basis, for the life of the match. During the meetings, filled with conversations and shared activities, matches develop relationships that help youth manage everyday challenges and stresses that are a part of growing up. Due to this focused, individualized interaction, children gain new skills, improve academically and explore new interests that expand their experience base beyond their family and neighborhood..



For more information please contact us at info@bbbsbigbend.org.

2477 Tim Gamble Pl., Suite 200 • Tallahassee, Florida 32308 • 850.386.6002

www.bigbendmentoring.org