



*You're The Reason We*  
**Believe**



**Big Brothers Big Sisters  
of Bermuda**



## **About Us:**

The African Proverb states, ***“It takes a village to raise a child”***. At Big Brothers Big Sisters this is a quote we firmly believe in. Children in Bermuda are now faced with problems that we would have never imagined years ago. By becoming a Big you can act as a mentor and a role model to a child who needs that extra encouragement and support. Together we can help improve our community by investing in our future!

**BBBS** Bermuda is a mentoring program dedicated to helping children and youth, primarily from single parent homes, realize their potential by facilitating the development of long-term one-on-one relationships.

## **Definition of a Big:**

A *Big* is a:

- Friend
- Coach
- Mentor
- Supporter
- Advisor
- Advocate
- Listener



## **How does it all work?**

We match a child with an adult mentor matching specific strengths and abilities of the volunteer to the needs of the child. The Big spends a minimum of three hours per week with their Little for at least one year. During this time the Big helps the Little build personal values such as self-esteem, self-respect and respect for others. The average match lasts three years; many last a lifetime!

## **Benefits to being a Big:**

- Provides a sense of meaning and purpose and a chance to give back to the community;
- Offers an opportunity for learning and personal growth as well as emotional satisfaction;
- Provides a break from busy, professional lives;
- Reinforces a deep belief in the importance of helping others;
- Provides an opportunity for sharing wisdom and experiences;
- Is a way of making the community, the nation and even the world a better place... one future citizen at a time!

## **Who can be a Big?**

**You can!**



# Believe

## Who are the Littles?

- They range between the ages of five and eighteen years
- Primarily from single-parent households
- In need of positive adult influence to enhance their social development

## What Bigs and Littles Do?

### HAVE FUN!!!

- Playing football
- Playing a board game
- Sharing a pizza
- Taking a walk in the park
- Baking cookies
- Shooting hoops
- Or just hanging out and talking

## The Facts:

Research has shown that youth matched with a Big Brother or Sister are:

- 52% more likely to stay in school
- 46% less likely to engage in drugs
- 32% less likely to engage in acts of violence

*(Tierny, Grossman and Resch U.S.A)*





## **So how do I become a Big?**

Potential Bigs are carefully screened and trained to ensure that they can sustain a positive and natural relationship with their Little. Bigs are provided with training to assist them with building this relationship.

### **To get started:**

- Must be 21 years or older
- Complete an application form and return it to the BBBS office
- Your signature is required for a police check
- Submit names and addresses of three character references on the application
- An orientation interview is conducted
- The application is approved

*Once these stages are completed the matching process begins.*

*Imagine the difference you could make by investing only a few hours each month in the life of a child!*





## **Testimonials:**

*“The relationship with my Big Brother over the past 17 years has impacted both my personal and business relationships. BBBS can change a young person’s life, because it is a life-changing organization.”*

*- Sergio White, Former Little Brother*

*“I thought it was going to be difficult to make time for my Littles, but it isn’t hard. You’d be surprised as to how much time you really have.”*

*- Les Dziwenka, Big Brother*

*“Since joining the BBBS programme, I found that I am now far more patient, more understanding, more forgiving, and more aware of the different challenges that children go through both at home and at school... and a host of other things.”*

*- Corville Hylton, Big Brother*

*“It is an honor and a privilege to be a part of such an awesome organization. I encourage anyone who can commit the time to Big Brothers Big Sisters to do so. “It takes a village to raise a child.”*

*- Joseph Marable, Big Brother*



## **Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bermuda**

Cap-a-Laige Charities House

25 Point Finger Road

Paget, Bermuda DV04

Telephone: (441) 232-2802 Fax: (441) 236-5412

Email: [bbbs@logic.bm](mailto:bbbs@logic.bm) Web: [www.bbbs.bm](http://www.bbbs.bm)

*Children are our future - let's help guide them into a better tomorrow!*

### **Our Aim:**

**To provide successful mentoring relationships for all children who need and want them; contributing to brighter futures, better schools and stronger communities for all.**

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## Count Me In!

**For more information or to volunteer, call us today at 232-2802 or complete and return this form.**

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Parish: ..... Postal Code: .....

Phone: (H)..... (W) .....

(C).....

Email: .....

Are You Bermudian?  Yes  No

If no, how long do you anticipate living in Bermuda? .....

Yes! I'd like to volunteer to be a Big Brother or Big Sister.

Yes! I'd like to make a donation to Big Brothers Big Sisters.

I Enclose a cheque for \$ .....

### To Return Completed Form Please:

Mail: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bermuda  
P.O. Box HM 3261, Hamilton HM PX

Fax: (441) 236-5412

Web: [www.bbbs.bm](http://www.bbbs.bm) (Fill out the online form)

Or: Drop into our office: 25 Point Finger Road  
Paget, DV04, Bermuda

