

## Where does the money go?

Big Brothers Big Sisters relies on both volunteers and monetary donations.

What is done with the donations

- To recruit volunteers and carefully screen each volunteer
- Interviewing each potential Big, Little and Little's family
- To maximize child safety
- To provide each "match" with close support by a professional social worker
- To provide each volunteer with orientation and training to help them be more effective mentors
- To provide group activities for Bigs and Littles



## Sponsors:



## Contact Us:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwestern Illinois  
6400 West Main Street Suite 1G  
Belleville, IL 62223

Phone: 618-398-3162

Fax: 618-398-3791

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# Big Brothers Big Sisters

Over 100 years of history....

And our story continues

Be a part of



something

## Volunteering



### History

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwestern Illinois was founded in 1980 by a group of social workers who want to dedicate their time to the children in the special education of Belleville and the children of the St. Clair County.

By 2003, the agency had expanded to Clinton, Madison and Monroe County. A goal for this chapter was to match up 1,100 volunteers with children by 2010.

To become a volunteer for Big Brothers Big Sisters is a great opportunity not only for the volunteers but also for the child that he/she will be matched up with. Maybe you never got the chance to be a big brother or sister, well now is your time!

## Volunteering

Once you have gone through the interview process, the final step is being matched up with your Little. Building this relationship with your Little is like no other experience. It is up to the volunteer to make the best out of this special bond.

In a year, volunteers have the chance to make an impact on these children that could change the rest of their lives.

Children enrolled are more likely to:

- Graduate high school
- Make positive life choices
- Maintain a better relationship with friends and families
- Not get involved in gangs or drugs



## Enrolling a child

Children who are enrolled into the Big Brothers Big Sisters program are referred to as Littles. Things to follow when enrolling a Little: Little Sisters are between the ages of 6-14; Little Brothers are between the ages of 7-14. Families who enroll their child have done so on a voluntary basis. Littles and their families must be capable of supporting a relationship with a mentor.



### Requirements for volunteers

- 18 years of age and over
- Have means of transportation, up-to-date insurance, and a valid driver's license.
- Have one year to dedicate
- Be available for 10 to 12 hours per month
- Have experienced no significant life changes within the past year- loss of family or close friend; marriage; divorce; birth of child.
- Do not anticipate any major changes within the next year.
- No record of abuse/ harm to another individual

Just for Bigs

