# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



# A LETTER FROM OUR CEO BECKY FLAHERTY

As I look back on my first year as CEO at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh, I am astonished by all we have accomplished, but even more in awe of the support that we received from so many

funders and volunteers! Our network of friends has truly demonstrated their desire to positively impact the lives of youth in our region.

We know that mentoring is a necessity for youth to thrive. Through mentoring relationships, our Bigs and Littles have the opportunity to gain new perspectives, challenge assumptions, and see themselves in a new way. These relationships are powerful and can last a lifetime!



This year, I am challenging each of us to think about the relationships that have made a difference in our own lives, and how together we can make a difference in the lives of young people in our community. If you are a Big in one of our programs – know that you are making an impact! If you are not – this could be your year to make a big difference in the life of a young person, and in your own life. Being a Big is a 1% investment of your time that comes with a 100% guarantee that you WILL make an impact!

### **OUR MISSION**

To create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth.

### **OUR VISION**

That all youth achieve success.

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# **OUR PROGRAMS**

### **COMMUNITY-BASED**

The Community-Based program is the traditional program of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh. An adult volunteer ("Big") is matched with a child ("Little") in a professionally supported one-to-one mentoring relationship, spending serveral hours together a couple times per month.

#### **SPORTS BUDDIES**

Sports Buddies is a version of Community-based Mentoring Program that matches adult mentors with youth who have a shared interest in sports, fitness, or just being active.

### **BIG SIBLINGS**

Big Siblings is a version of Community-based Mentoring Program that matches self-identified LGBTQ+ youth with LGBTQ+ volunteer adult mentors in the LGBTQ+ community. We are the defenders of potential so that EVERY child succeeds in life.

### SITE-BASED

During the school year, a student and a professionally-screened and trained volunteer spend time together at a school, community center, or a volunteer's workplace, supervised by a BBBSPGH staff member.

### SCHOOL-BASED

Students from elementary and middle schools are matched with high school, college, and adult mentors from the community. Mentors visit once a week for an hour during the school year to do homework together, play games, and talk about their challenges and successes during the week.

#### WORKPLACE MENTORING

Littles are matched with employees from corporate partners. Mentors and mentees meet twice a month throughout the school year.

### **BIGS IN BLUE**

Bigs in Blue connects youth with police and other law enforcement professionals to build strong, trusting, and lasting professically supported relationships.

### **BIG FUTURES**

Big Futures pairs teens with working or retired adults and focuses on helping them envision, plan for, and realize success during and after high school. Whether the teen intends to attend college, trade school, or enter the workforce, the mentor helps to empower the teen through guidance, friendship, and encouragement.

### **MENTOR2.0**

During the school year, a student and a professionally-screened and trained volunteer work together alongside a technology based curriculum to achieve high school graduation and career success.

### **POST SECONDARY PROGRAM (PSP)**

Designed for young people after "graduation" from either the Community-Based or Mentor2.0, BBBS PGH's PSP program staff and mentors assist alumni Littles as they pursue education in college/university or trade school, enlistment in the military, and/or living wage employment. Through this program these young adults are connected to college/university contacts, military recruiters or employers; experience leadership conferences, job fairs, social and cultural activities; and have the opportunity to apply for scholarships, internships, or apprenticeships.





# **BIGS IN BLUE**

In 2021, Big Sister Liz and Little Sister Myla were matched as part of the new Bigs in Blue Program at Washington Park Elementary School. They spend time together, do homework, and learn about law enforcement careers.

Myla was recommended to the program by her teachers because she was very shy – rarely speaking up in class or talking with other students. At first, Myla was also shy around Liz. However, through their consistent time spent together, and the relationship they built, Myla began to, speaking up in class, and started to openly express herself to her peers and teachers. We are excited to see what the next school year brings to this new match relationship!

# HIGHLIGHTS

**Big Siblings:** In early 2022, BBBSPGH launched a new Community -Based Mentoring Program, "Big Siblings". This program addresses the increasing needs of LGBTQ+ youth in the Pittsburgh region. The program matches youth who self-identify as LGBTQ+ with a trusted LGBTQ+ mentor and role model who has some lived experience. In addition to following the same program structure as our traditional Community-based Mentoring Program, Big Siblings offers matches opportunities to participate in BBBSPGH sponsored events and activities that can help mentees explore their LGBTQ+ identities.

### Bigs in Blue Expansion into Washington County: In 2021,

BBBSPGH expanded our presence in Washington County through the launch of a new Bigs in Blue program. Through this program, law enforcement officers from the Washington County Sheriff's Department are building friendships with local youth from Washington Park Elementary School that will help these children develop into confident adults, while helping to build stronger bonds between law enforcement and the families they serve. This program builds on both our Bigs in Blue Program in the Pittsburgh Region, as well as our mentoring programs in Washington County. This past year, matches spent time together getting to know each other, playing games, doing homework, and learning about law enforcement careers. We are excited to see how these relationships grow over the next several years!

**Staff Development:** This past year, BBBSPGH staff participated in several staff development sessions to improve their knowledge and skill in serving our matches and their families. One of these sessions included a Human-Centered Design Workshop offered by the Pittsburgh Foundation. The workshop helped build the skills of staff so they can solve problems creatively and collaboratively, by looking at solutions through the lens of what people being served want and need.







**Big Siblings featuring Hugh Lane** Wellness Foundation: The Hugh Lane Wellness Foundation was founded in 2017 to improve the health of the LGBTQ+ and HIV communities. With the launch of "Big Siblings" in early 2022, BBBSPGH partnered with Hugh Lane to deliver ongoing competency training in the areas of gender, identity, and sexuality for all of our program and administrative staff. These workshops help create safe and inclusive spaces for all of the young people and volunteer mentors who participate in our programs. This training also aligns with our policies and practices around justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion (JEDI).

# **BIG** SIBLINGS





# MENTOR2.0 AT CORNELL

June 2022 marked the end of the second year of mentor2.0 programming at Cornell High School. Throughout the year, matches experienced a wide variety of activities and presentations that included creating resumes, hands-on art and STEAM projects, and engaging in community activities. Students also were able to explore topics with their mentors such as healthy relationship development, the importance of setting goals, and preparation for college and life after high school. The highlight of the program was a field trip to the Carnegie Science Center!

# NANCY & KAMRYN

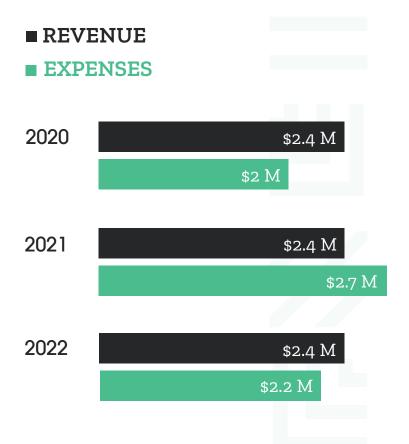
Big Sister Nancy and Little Sister Kamryn have been matched since 2012 in the Community-Based Program. According to Nancy, the one thing that Kam LOVED to do when she was young was sled-ride. Nancy bought her a plastic snowboard and they would go up and down a steep hill behind the Kingsley Center in East Liberty. "Seeing the big smile on Kam's face brought me so much joy"– remarks Nancy when asked about one of their favorite activities to do together.

Kam also clearly remembers the day that she and Nancy attended a formal fundraiser at the Heniz History Center. Kam stood up on the stage with a microphone and was asked questions about the BBBSPGH mentoring program by then-governor Tom Corbett. Kam never missed a beat. She confidently answered every question with the encouragement of her Big Sister Nancy. Her mom, who was in the audience beamed with pride!

Now that Kam is older and a college graduate, she says that after she was matched with Nancy she never felt lonely because she knew that she could always talk to Nancy about anything. This is a true lifetime friendship!







### IT'S MORE THAN A DONATION. IT'S MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh is supported by a variety of grants, donations, events, and campaigns.

Every dollar is an investment to ignite the potential of a child's future.



# **BIG IMPACT**

Over the past year, our Littles reported that their mentors had a big impact in the following areas:



rated their mentoring relationship with their Big a 4 on a 5 point scale



plan on graduating high school with 65% pursing a post secondary pathway



said that they did not engage in bullying, etc.

# PARTNERS

McElhattan Foundation: The McElhattan Foundation believes that learning about oneself and the world around us is at the core of human life. The Foundation supports high-quality afterschool, summer, and other informal learning experiences that take place outside the classroom, funding hands-on learning experiences where youth can connect to positive adult mentors, feel safe to try new things, and have the opportunity to hone new skills. BBBSPGH is honored to have received support from the Foundation for our mentor2.0 Program at Pittsburgh Brashear and Cornell High Schools. Through this generous support, BBBSPGH has been able to help students progress through high school while planning for their futures.

**Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation:** The Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation supports programs that mitigate the circumstances of those experiencing homelessness. With new funding from the Foundation, BBBSPGH is serving students who are experiencing homelessness or are at-risk for homelessness at Pittsburgh Brashear who participate in our mentor2.0 Program. We are grateful to the Foundation for this new partnership.





# DUQUESNE LIGHT

Duquesne Light Company (DLC) served as the inaugural corporate partner for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh's mentoring program Big Siblings, that focuses on youth and mentors who identify as LGBTQ+.

We are proud to be a partner with a company like DLC, who recently launched, PRISM, an "ally circle" for employees who identify as LGBTQ+ and allies. PRISM stands for Pride, Respect, Inclusion, Solidarity and Mindfulness. The group offers a "safe space" to network while also discussing best practices and overcoming challenges in the workplace.

With funding and support from DLC, BBBSPGH has been able to successfully launch the Big Siblings program and begin recruitment of mentors and mentees with professional support and needed resources.



# **BIG EVENTS**

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh's three signature special events raise awareness and funds to support our one-to-one mentoring programs.

## **Bowl for Kids' Sake**

Bowl for Kids' Sake is Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh signature peer-to-peer fundraiser. Every year, over 600 people come together to have fun and raise money to support the children in our community. Bowl for Kids' Sake is the fun and easy way for individuals and companies to make an impact on the local community. Fundraising teams collect donations and then celebrate their success by attending a local bowling party.

## Annual Golf Classic

BBBSPGH's Annual Golf Classic at Laurel Valley Golf Club is a premier outing for golf lovers. The event begins with Laurel Valley's famous lunch buffet, followed by a shotgun start. After 18 holes with carts and first-rate caddies; cocktails, and a BBQ dinner; an Awards presentation is enjoyed in the Palmer Pavilion.

## The BIG Bash

The BIG Bash, BBBSPGH's fall signature gala is the most exciting charitable event of the year. The gala is a captivating evening of inspiration and celebration. Partygoers arrive at a unique Pittsburgh venue and dance the night away while enjoying cocktails, delicious bites, an expansive silent auction, and live entertainment. This party is not to be missed! The BIG Bash continues to be a huge success thanks to notable sponsors, partners, and more than 550 guests.

# **EVENT HIGHLIGHT**

After two years of virtual events, our community came back together, in person, for an unforgetta-BOWL, Bowl for Kids' Sake (BFKS) campaign raising \$220,000. We celebrated corporate and individual's fundraising success at four fun-filled bowling events,

including Top Golf.



CBC Charities has been the Top Fundraising Team Winner for over 10 years, raising funds through BFKS to support the mission of BBBSPGH.

### **CORPORATE & FOUNDATION FUNDERS**

#### 50,000 to 65,000

Arby's Foundation Comcast The Essential Foundation/ Peoples Natural Gas The Pittsburgh Foundation

#### 20,000 to 49,999

American Eagle Outfitters Bank of America Foundation Big Brothers Big Sisters of America Continential Building Company Charities Covalent Highmark Wholecare Howmet Aerospace Invest in Others Charitable Foundation, Inc. JKS Financial McCune Foundation **PPG** Foundation Presidio Networked Solutions LLC The Grable Foundation The Millbury Foundation United Way of Southwestern PA UPMC Health Plan

#### 10,000 to 19,999

Amerisourcebergen Amazon Web Services Captrust Community Foundation Coy Capital Management Deloitte Duquense Light Equitrans Midstream Foundation First National Bank of Pennsylvania Highmark Jack Buncher Foundation John E. & Sue M. Jackson Charitable Trust Massey Charitable Trust Olympus Energy, LLC Opportunity Foundation Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation Robert & Mary Weisbrod Foundation Scaife Family Foundation ServiceMaster Clean & Restore Snee-Reinhardt Charitable Foundation The Anne L. & George H. Clapp Charitable / Educational Trust The Howard & Nell E. Miller Foundation United States Steel Corporation VMware Foundatio

**5,000 to 9,999** Advanced Personal Care LLC C. Harper Automotive Eat' n Park Hospitality Group Enterprise Holdings Foundation Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh Fox Rothschild, LLP Frederick Wells Advisors Hestia Capital Management, LLC HRS Unlimited IDI Consulting James M. & Lucy K. Schoonmaker Foundation Kurt J. Lesker Company Merrill-The Irick Group Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, LLP NexTier Bank Pennsylvania Skills **Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation** PNC Bank Foundation Questmark SDLC Partners/CyLumena The Coury Firm The Richard A. Zappala Family Foundation The Trustmark Foundation Transmark Foundation Washington Financial Charitable Foundation

#### 1,000 to 4,999

AmCom American Eagle Outfitters Ampco Pittsburgh Charitable Foundation Beav's Memorial Golf Classic Birmingham Pen Company Burleson Family Charitable Fund Camelot Communications City of Pittsburgh **Community Foundation of Greene** County **Consol Cares Foundation** Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote Duquesne Light Ecolab Edwin R. Crawford Estate Trust Fund Ernst & Young, L.L.P. Federated Hermes Gleason & Associates Goodcoin Foundation/ Target Circle

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#### 200 to 999

Absolute Reclamation Services, LLC AI Solutions Alera Group Allegheny Refridgeration Amazon Smile AMP Fitness Animal Rescue Partners Ares Management Bethel Park Printing, INC. Biel Charitable Fund Bottled Group, LLC Beyond Spots and Dots

**Clemens Food Group** Connected Health Cray Investments Inc Disĥ Osteria & Bar **Dollar Bank Foundation** First National Bank - Pittsburgh Region Fortitude Fitness Galloway Safety & Supply Gasoline Street Coffee Company Great Lakes Behavioral Research Institute H. P. Starr Lumber Co., LLC Hampton Mechanical **Hi-Touch Business Services** Ideal Aerosmith, Inc. KEK-RJK, LLC Keurig Dr Pepper Lee Oleinick / UBS Walnut Wealth Management Group Leo Greta Restaurant Marsa Inc. Nisource Charitable Foundation Northrop Grumman Corp Trust NuGo Nutrition Pizzaz Simplicity Pittsburgh Smiths Agency Specialized Professional Services, Inc. Shadyside Nursery TC Stein Industries, LLC Tile and Stone Workers **Tennant Foundation** The Church of the Covenant The Clint Seymour Play Ball Fund The Common Heart The Curtis I. Kossman Foundation The Finley Family Fund The Roy Family Charitable Fund The Sherwood & Shawna Johnson Charitable Fund The Tennant Foundation Thomas A Will & Associates Timothy Ungarean DMD TobinLeff TREK Development **Turner Dairy Farms** Washington Financial Bank Young Galvanizing, Inc.

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