

Programs

The children we serve come from diverse backgrounds:

- Single-parent homes
- Children of incarcerated parents
- Families with histories of substance abuse
- Children with little or no access to healthy recreation and/or resources

We also serve children experiencing a variety of challenges who just need a positive adult role model to offer consistency, fun, and friendship.



Community-Based Mentoring Program

- One-to-one matches meet in the community at a time that is convenient for the Big and Little
- 8-12 hours per month
- One-year minimum commitment
- Bigs must be at least 18 years old

Please call our office to speak with a Match Support Specialist about how to enroll.



An Affiliate Agency of
Big Brothers Big Sisters of America



Vision, Mission & Accountability

Our vision is that all children achieve success in life.

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 partner with parents/guardians, volunteers, and others in the community and hold ourselves accountable for each child in our program achieving:

- Higher aspirations, greater confidence, and better relationships
- Avoidance of risky behaviors
- Educational success

For more information:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the North Coast
428 C Street, Suite G, Eureka, CA 95501
PO Box 5510, Eureka, CA 95502-5510
Phone: (707) 445-4871 Fax: (707) 445-1405

info@ncbbbs.org
www.ncbbbs.org

Updated Jan. 2015

Big Brothers Big Sisters *of the North Coast*



Proudly mentoring Humboldt
County youth since 1969!

(707) 445-4871

What is Big Brothers Big Sisters?



Since 1969, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the North Coast has offered one-to-one mentoring programs to

children ages 6 to 16. Mentors, called "Bigs" are carefully screened and trained adult volunteers. Each Big is matched with a child, called a "Little." Together the Big and Little spend quality time sharing educational, fun, and low-cost activities. Some suggested match activities are:

- Baking cookies
- Bike riding
- Fishing
- Gardening
- Hiking
- Painting
- Playing music
- Playing sports
- Singing
- Talking
- Watching movies

Big Brothers and Big Sisters listen, guide, and encourage their Littles to become confident, caring, and responsible adults. Match Support Specialists provide ongoing monitoring and support to every match.



Why Mentoring?

An independent national research study of Big Brothers Big Sisters, found that children who had been matched with a mentor for 18 months or longer were:

- 46% less likely to begin using illegal drugs
- 52% less likely to skip school
- 37% less likely to skip a class
- 33% less likely to hit someone

They also found that the Littles were more confident of their performance in schoolwork and got along better with their families.

Mentoring Makes a Difference!

"My Big Brother is great to be around and brings out the best in me."

"My Big Sister is fun and understanding and someone to talk to."

"My Big Sister is like my super cool aunt."

"I didn't know you people existed . . . He can't wait to see his Big Brother every week!"

"I feel this is an amazing program and I'm so lucky to be a part of these kids' lives!"

Become a Big!

Big Brothers Big Sisters is always seeking caring volunteers willing to spend time with a young person and make a difference in their lives. Bigs range in age from 18 years old to retired individuals. Bigs are fun-loving, patient, caring, and have a few hours each month to spend with a child. After each volunteer completes an application, a Match Support Specialist will conduct an interview and thorough background check. Then, a Big is matched with a Little based on interests, personality, and location.



Become a Little!

Children between the ages of 6 and 16 from low-income families who do not have regular contact with one or both parents or are facing special challenges may apply to be matched with a Big. Once we receive an application, we will schedule an appointment to meet with the child and parent/guardian.

Once enrolled, the Little will begin the match process. We match each Little with a Big based on interests, personality, and location. All Bigs are carefully screened and trained. The match process usually takes 1-3 months, or longer. Sometimes the perfect match quickly falls right into place. Once matched, a Little may stay in the program until age 18.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!



**Big Brothers Big Sisters of the
North Coast**



Bowl For Kids' Sake XXXIV

A Carnival Masquerade Bowl

March 3-4 2017

IT'S EASY TO FORM A FUNDRAISING TEAM:

- Designate a team captain and gather 4 – 6 fundraisers
- Call the BBBSNC office to set up a Friday or Saturday time
- Collect donations for the Littles in our program
- Come in costume, ready to bowl

Each Big-Little match costs \$1200 per year.

Can you and your teammates fund a match?

Contact BBBSNC to sign up today

707-445-4871 bfks@ncbbbs.org www.ncbbbs.org



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