

EMPOWERING POTENTIAL

2023 Impact Report





A LETTER FROM OUR CEO

For 45 years, BBBS of SWLA has operated under the belief that inherent in every young person is the ability to succeed and thrive in life. All they need is a positive relationship to help them find the potential that is already inside them. Our dedicated program staff make meaningful professionally supported relationships between adult volunteers ("Bigs") and youth ("Littles"), ages 6 through 18 who reside in Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Jeff Davis, and Vernon Parishes.

Throughout our history, we have heard from many of our volunteers and families on the importance of our mentoring programs and how it enriches their lives. We currently have mentors in our program that were once Littles themselves. We have former Littles that work with our agency to help other kids have that same life changing experience. Every year, we celebrate our Littles as they graduate from high school and go on to adulthood. We watch as our Littles grow up and become amazing, contributing members of our community. As of today, we have 90 youth on our wait list and 25 volunteers on our wait list. It is critical that our community step up and become a Big. Please help us with engaging volunteers in the community. Our youth need YOU.

2023 was an exciting year of rebirth, regrowth, and recommitment to our Vision and Mission. The successes we celebrated last year would not be possible without each of YOU, our community stakeholders. We feel very fortunate to have a diverse, generous, and dedicated community supporting the families and youth in our mentoring programs. Opening our satellite office in Beauregard Parish has enabled us to reach more youth in rural and underserved areas. I am proud to inform you that we have matched 30 youth with a Big in Beauregard & Vernon Parishes, launched Operation Big for youth who live at Fort Johnson/JRTC, in partnership with the BOSS and MWR Programs. Launched Big Futures in Elton's middle school, in partnership with the Coshatta Tribe of Louisiana to ensure Tribal youth are receiving critical life skills and behavioral support in their school. And provided school-to-work opportunities and important life and financial literacy skills to MentorU youth ages 12-17, a program that is creating a pathway of opportunity to teens when they need it the most.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, Littles, and Parent/Guardians, we thank you for all you have done and will continue to do to support our Vision that all youth achieve their full potential. With your help, BBBS of SWLA will continue to make and maintain meaningful, carefully screened mentor relationships for the youth most in need.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erin Davison".

Erin Davison, MBA
President & CEO



OUR MISSION

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



At Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Louisiana *Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion* (JEDI) is an integral part of our values and mission.

OUR VISION

That all youth achieve their full potential.

We recognize, affirm, and celebrate the diverse backgrounds, lives, and experiences of all stakeholders, including youth, families, donors, volunteers, and staff.

Youth Mentoring Programs

SITE-BASED MENTORING

Where Bigs (Mentors) have availability limitations, or children specifically desire school help, this structure allows Mentors and the children we serve to meet at school during the school day.

COMMUNITY-BASED MENTORING

Allows the Big (Mentor) and the children to meet at their convenience, typically on weekends or after school for fun activities.



MENTORU

Youth ages 12-18 meet monthly in a curriculum-based non-1-1 or 1-1 group mentoring program that provides learning in career planning, life skills, financial literacy, better decision making, and behavioral health.

BIG FUTURES

A hybrid program of high school students matched with middle school students OR non-1-1 group mentoring to Middle School Students that provides site-facilitated, curriculum based programming for high school readiness, career exploration, school-to-work and other life skills.

OPERATION BIG

In partnership with Fort Johnson/JRTC's BOSS and MWR Personnel. We support a dedicated focus to match Bigs with Littles who have a parent/guardian deployed or actively training away from the base. *launched in August 2023

BIGS WITH BADGES

Local first responders serve as mentors in the communities where they serve in either the site-based or community-based mentoring programs.

BIG FUTURES SUMMER MENTORING ACADEMY

A week-long academy for youth in grades 7th-9th focused on career exploration, school-to-work opportunities, life skills, and financial literacy.

LITTLE FUTURES SUMMER MENTORING ACADEMY

A three-week academy for youth in grades 3rd-6th focused on life skills, physical fitness, literacy, and educational field trips.

IMPACT

Total Youth Mentored- 388

NEW Big/Little Matches- 45

Youth Waiting to be Matched- 90

Community/Site Based- 75

MentorU Youth- 40

Big Futures Youth- 153



94%

IMPROVED OR MAINTAINED
GRADES & ACADEMIC
PERFORMANCE



98%

FELT THEY HAD A
SPECIAL ADULT IN THEIR
CORNER



95%

GRADUATED FROM
HIGH SCHOOL



91%

AVOIDED
JUVENILE JUSTICE

WHO WE SERVE

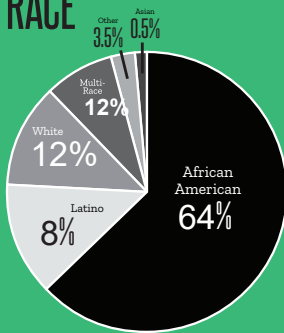
TOTAL CHILDREN SERVED

388

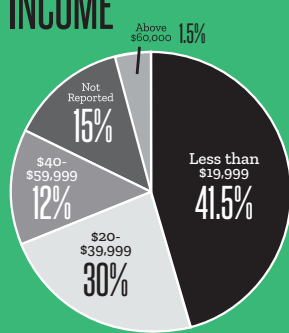
AGE



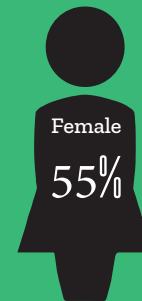
RACE



INCOME



GENDER



Allen Parish 30

Cameron Parish 15

Beauregard Parish 30

Calcasieu Parish 213

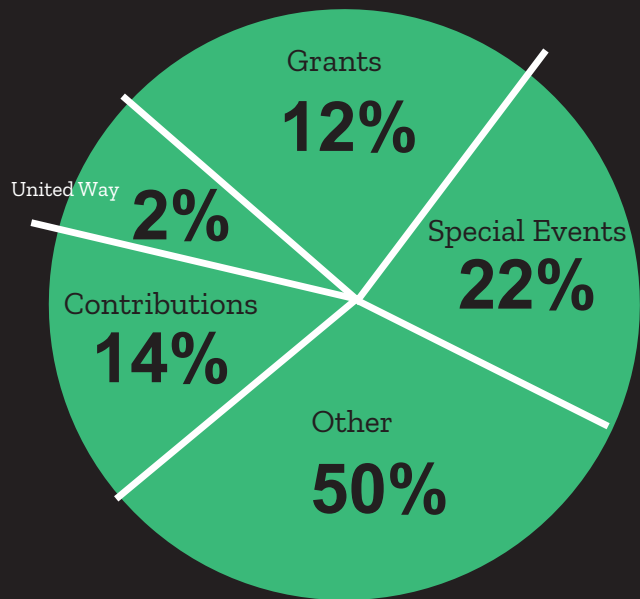
Vernon Parish 20

Jeff Davis Parish

80

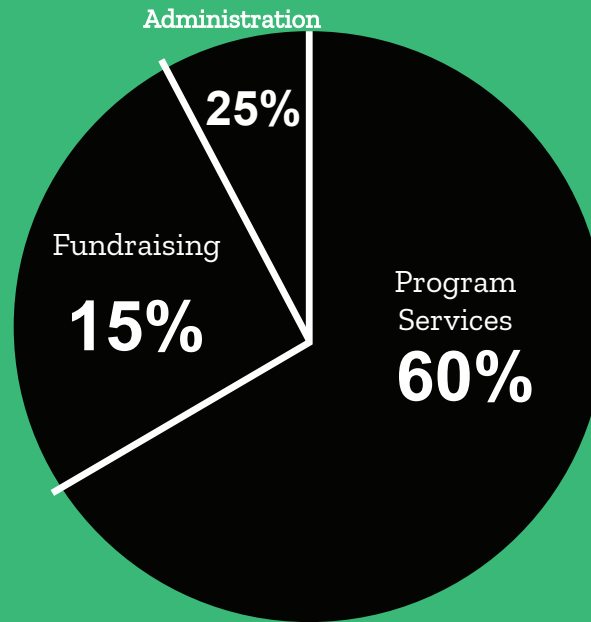
*US Census Bureau defines </\$ as at or below poverty.

FINANCIALS



REVENUE	
Grants	\$ 150,000
United Way	\$ 24,000
Contributions	\$ 180,000
Special Events	\$ 285,000
Other	\$ 450,000
Totals	\$ 1,089,000

	EXPENSES
Program Services	\$ 750,000
Fundraising	\$ 153,000
Administration	\$ 255,000
Totals	\$ 1,020,000



DONORS

Our Littles Appreciate You

\$25,000+

Blue Cross Blue Shield of La
Calcasieu Parish Police Jury
Cheniere Energy
City of Lake Charles
Calcasieu Parish School Board
Calcasieu Parish Sheriff Office
Calcasieu Parish DA's Office
SWLA Injury Attorneys
La. Dept. of Corrections
Tempur-Sealy
United Way of SWLA

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Southside Machine Works
Sasol
Altria Foundation
NFL Inspire Change
Capital One Bank
Payback Foundation
L'auberge Casino Resort
Panera Bread Foundation
Golden Nugget Lake
Charles
PPG Foundation

\$5,000-\$9,999

Citgo
CSE Federal Credit Union
Edward Jones-Vickie Wicks
Enbridge
Entergy
First Horizon Bank
LyondellBasell
Lotte Chemical
PPG
Westlake Chemical
Zigler Foundation
Louisiana Children's Trust Fund
Cummins Sales
United Way of CenLa Amerisafe
Tellurian

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Driftwood LNG/Tellurian
Evangeline Bank & Trust
Hancock Whitney Bank
State Farm-Lindsey Cutler
Investar Bank
Stream Family
Tito's Handmade Vodka
Turnaround Services
JC Penney
Express
Target

\$500-\$1,999

Argent Trust
Coushatta Casino Resort
Phillips 66
Southwest Beverage Co
Walmart
Scott Foundation
Jay's Carpet One
Lisa Thompson- Century 21

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Townsquare Media
- KPLC/Fox 29
- Cumulus Broadcasting
- CBS Lake Charles
- Thrive Magazine & Healthy Image
- Lagniappe Magazine
- The American Press
- Community Foundation of SWLA
- Starbucks
- Lake Charles Country Club
- Crying Eagle Brewing
- The Stadium Grill
- Coca Cola
- Southwest Beverage
- McNeese State University
- Mr. Gatti's
- Alpha Phi Alpha
- Fushion Five
- Junior Achievement
- Junior League of Lake Charles
- Kiwanis Southwest Contraband
- Lake Charles Rotary
- Sulphur Rotary
- DeRidder Lions Club
- Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
- Southwest Louisiana Library Consortium
- CVB
- Chamber SWLA
- West Calcasieu Chamber
- Beauregard Parish Chamber
- Jeff Davis Chamber
- Office of Juvenile Justice
- Beauregard Parish Sheriff Office
- Calcasieu Parish Sheriff Office
- City of Lake Charles
- Calcasieu Parish Police Jury
- Calcasieu Parish School Board
- Beauregard Parish School Board
- Jeff Davis School Board
- Westlake Police Department
- Fort Polk Progress
- City of Leesville
- Kohl's
- Target Stores
- Simon Mall
- American Legion Post 1



The *Big Defender Fund* was created to serve as a long-term investment for the sustainability of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Louisiana youth mentoring programs. Seeded by the transformative donation from Philanthropist MacKenzie Scott.

In addition to current youth mentoring programs offered by BBBS, the fund will be used to: expand youth safety practices and quality of match relationships; address other mentoring needs of young people when a need is identified; support services for parents and guardians; and provide innovative new mentoring programs that reach older youth and young adults.

Launched in partnership with the Community Foundation of Southwest Louisiana.

LEADERSHIP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Velka Trahan- Chair (BCBS of La.)
Lacy Viator- Vice Chair (Investar Bank)
Erika Carlisle- Treasurer (Carroll & Carlisle)
Erica Martin- Secretary (Entergy)

Kelly Miseles- Big Brother & Retired Army
Dan Losey- Retired P66
Ed McGuire- PSN Law Firm
Cinnamon Salvador- Calcasieu Parish Sheriff Office
Anthony Celestine- Calcasieu Parish Police Jury
Dave Foley- Capstone Mortgage
Alex Richard- B1Bank
Dr. Kedrick Nicholas- McNeese State University
Carl Lanham- Calcasieu Parish Sheriff Office D.A.R.E.
Program

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Erin Davison—Chief Executive Officer
David Eakin—Chief Finance Officer
Justina Wolford- Director of Development
Jillian Cormier- Director of Impact
John Jaramillo- Director of People

IN MEMORIAM

BEN TERRY
1983 - 2023



Big Brother



Main Office: 4135 Common Street, Lake Charles, LA 70607

Beauregard Parish Office: 1509 N. Pine Street, Suite C, DeRidder, LA 70634

BECOME A MENTOR



(337) 478-5437 | bbbsswla.org

