

2020

Impact Report



DEREK & KESHAWN
Matched in August 2020



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters®**
OF ACADIANA

DEAR FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS

How quickly our entire world seems to have been turned upside down. Our lives have been upended this last year by the pandemic, an economic downturn, and a nationwide focus on racism and social unrest. Keeping our mission thriving has been challenging but just like the young people we serve, we are resilient. 2020 has challenged us to learn and adapt on many levels. We had to make many quick changes to adapt our program including making virtual matches, moving activities and workshops to Zoom, and even reformatting our annual Wine Women & Shoes fundraiser into a virtual event. One thing that has not and will not change is our continuous support of youth and families. Our Program Team provided ongoing guidance and resources to ensure our Littles had a caring, supporting mentor to help them navigate through these tough times. In these times of physical distancing and social upheaval, our Littles needed us more than ever before. Our Bigs were there to listen, to offer support and encouragement, to be a friend, to be a positive role model and source of inspiration. Mentoring, at its core, is about relationships and our mentors at Big Brothers Big Sisters show these young people that they are not alone. They show them that, in this wide and vast world, there is someone in their corner and on this journey with them. Mentoring youth is a purpose with the potential to affect change on a large scale. When a child is mentored, they are 55% more likely to go to college, 79% more likely to volunteer in their community, 90% more likely to mentor others, and 130% more likely to pursue leadership positions. These numbers express the tangible benefits of mentoring. But the benefits don't end there. Our programs are evidence-based, and our data demonstrates that mentoring builds key social and emotional skills youth need to succeed in academics, career, and life. When you consider the data, it is impossible to deny that the right experience at the right time can be transformative for a young person.

Simply put, mentoring is the boldest and most powerful way to change a life.


KALLI CHRIST

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



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2020 **IMPACT** REPORT

The mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Acadiana is to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that

IGNITE THE POWER & PROMISE OF YOUTH.





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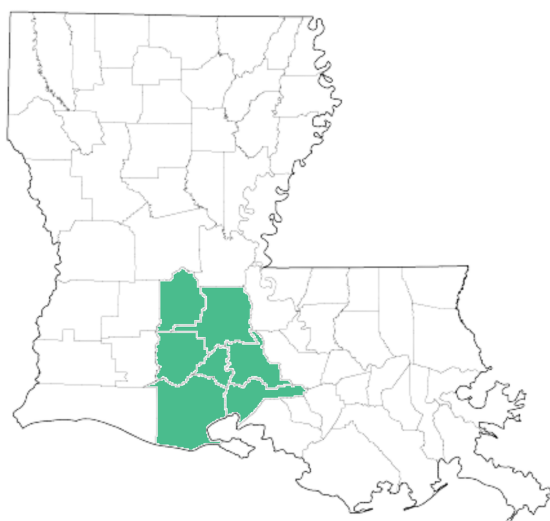
2020 **IMPACT** REPORT

HIGHLIGHTS

- 163 Littles served in a one-to-one mentoring relationship
- Community-Based matches are lasting over 24 months - over 35% longer than the average match length 5 years ago
- Site-based matches are lasting over 19 months - over 28% longer than the average match length 5 years ago
- Community-Based matches surveyed in 2020 made significant improvements from baseline to follow-up in all outcomes areas: parental trust, attitudes towards risky behaviors, grades, educational expectations, ability to get along with peers (social competence), juvenile justice involvement, and the presence of a special adult.
- After at least one year of mentoring, 93% of Community-Based and 100% of Site-Based Littles report that they feel they have a special adult in their life.

OUR FOOTPRINT

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Acadiana is an affiliate of the oldest and largest youth mentoring organization in the United States, which was founded in 1904. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Acadiana was founded in 1985 and serves youth (age 6 into young adulthood) in 7 parishes.



- Lafayette
- St. Martin
- Evangeline
- Acadia
- Iberia
- St. Landry
- Vermilion

OUR MODEL

The core BBBS program is Community-Based Mentoring, which allows matches to spend one-on-one time together in settings and activities of their choosing. We specialize in creating and supporting the relationships that help Littles facing adversity develop the characteristics needed for academic, social, and economic success. As an evidence-based mentoring program, BBBS prides itself on building and supporting impactful, enduring, relationships. In fact, in 2020, over 72% of Community-Based matches lasted at least 12 months (the minimum match goal), and on average, BBBS Community-Based matches last about 24 months.

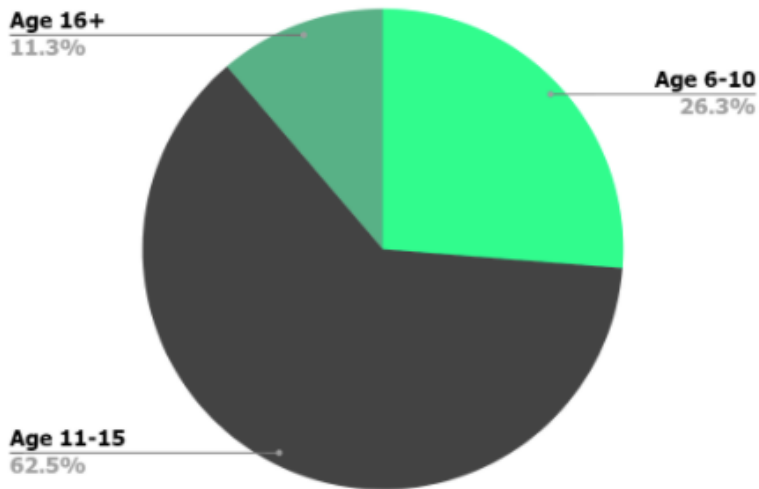
Our agency operates under the BBBS Standards of Practice. BBBS of America also provides and regularly updates the Service Delivery Model (SDM) for local agency use. The SDM provides a standardized guide, based on research and empirical evidence, for how we should engage Bigs, Littles, and parents or guardians to achieve safe, long, strong matches with the best possible outcomes for Littles, from the point of inquiry to match closure. BBBS is intentional about the populations of Littles served and the Bigs engaged in order to meet communities' most critical needs. Therefore, while the SDM provides consistency in service delivery across the network, it also provides space for innovation, so agencies, like ours, can effectively offer specific, targeted services in their locations. For example, in 2020, we carried out our mentoring services in different settings, which include: 1) Community-Based, where matches meet in the community; 2) Site-Based, where matches meet at a designated site such as a school or a Boys & Girls Club; 3) Site-Based Facilitated, where matches meet at a designated site and a staff member is present at all sessions (Sports Buddies), 4) Site-Based Plus, a hybrid that combines elements of both Community-Based and Site-Based settings, and 5) Virtual, where Bigs & Littles meet online on a consistent basis through the newly established E-mentoring program.





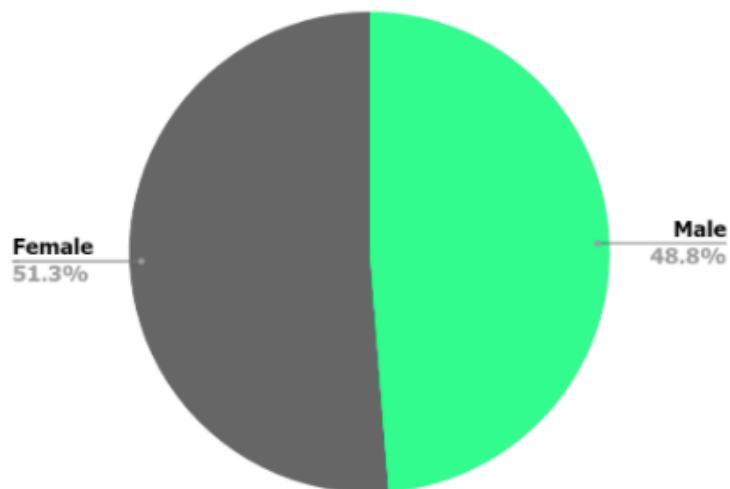
OUR LITTLES

LITTLES BY AGE

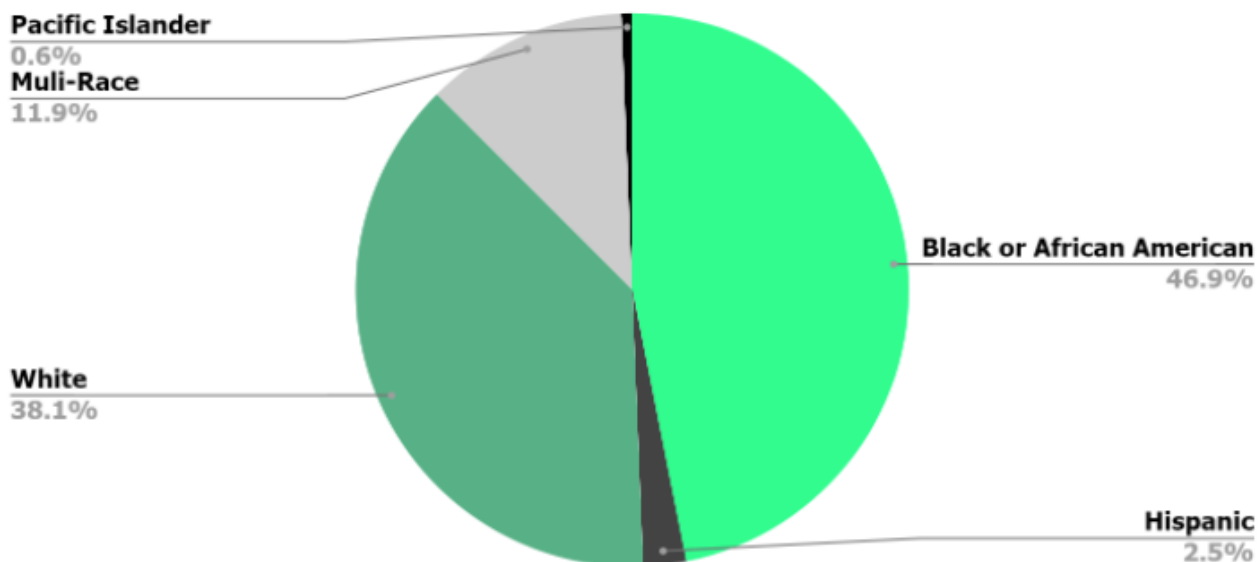


Average Age: 12

LITTLES BY GENDER



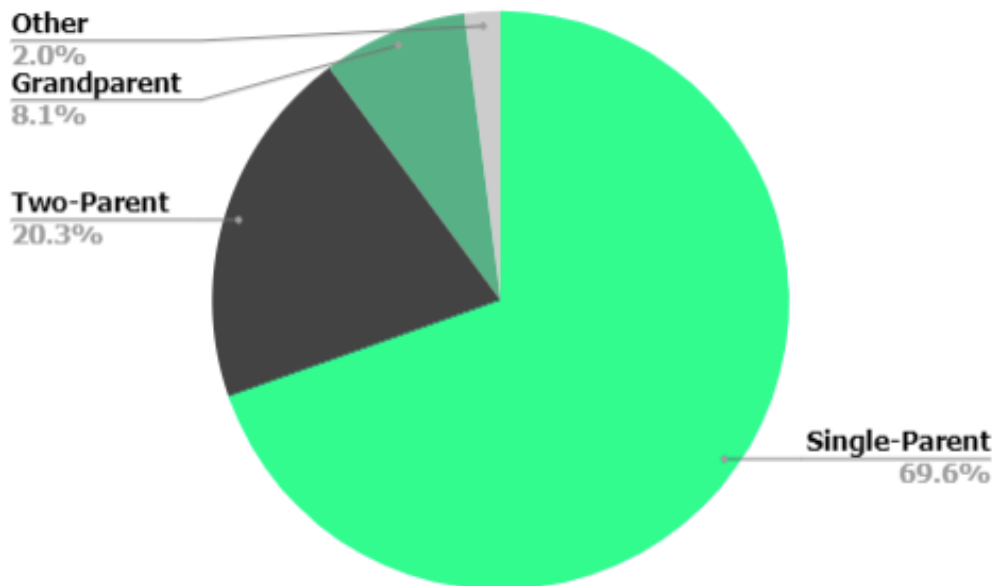
LITTLES BY RACE



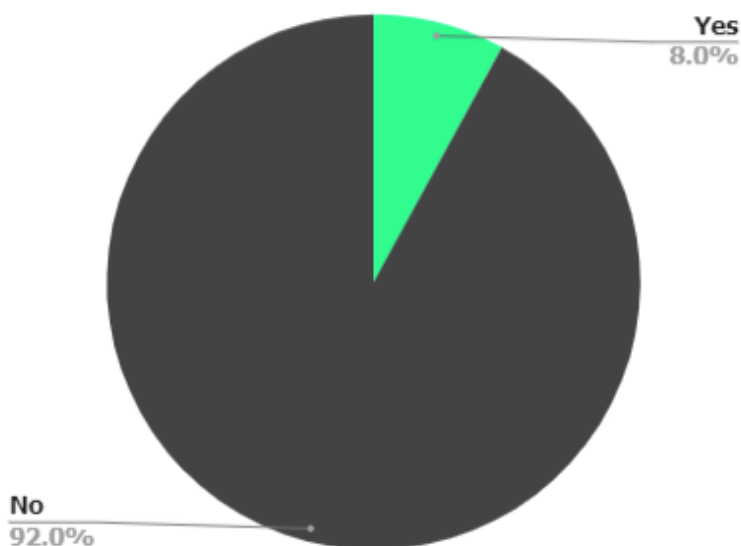


OUR LITTLES

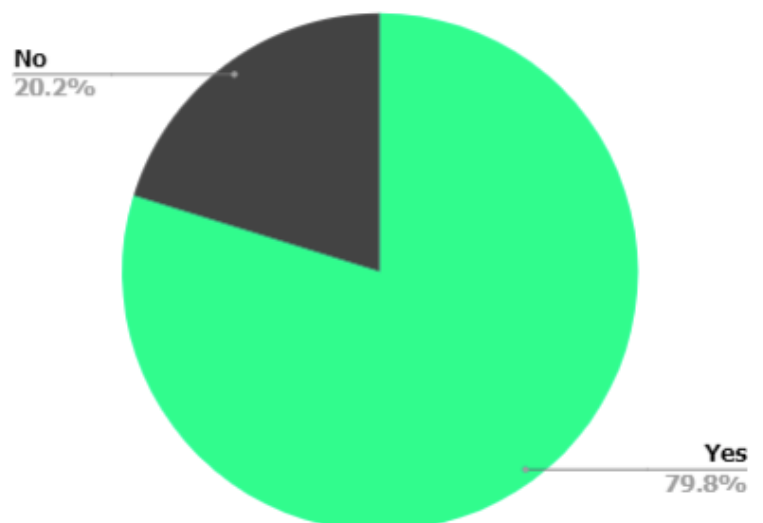
Child Living Situation



Incarcerated Parent



Subsidized Lunch





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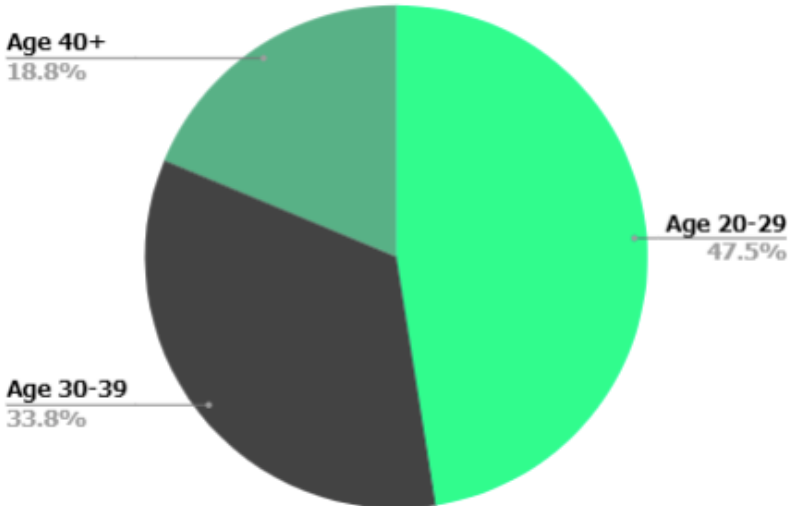
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OUR BIGS

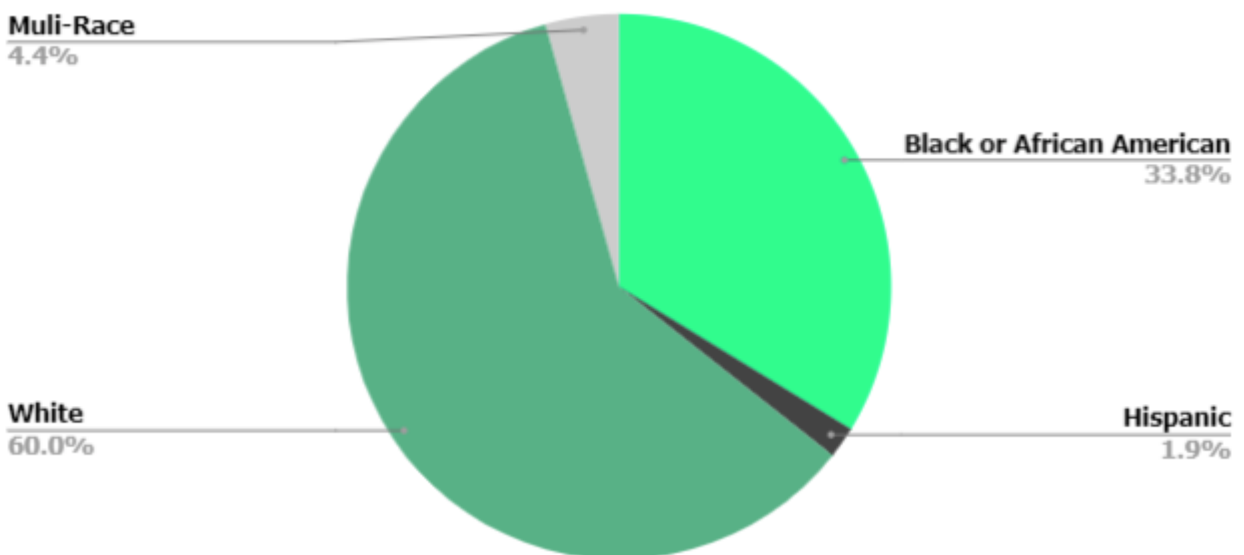
BIGS BY GENDER



BIGS BY AGE



BIGS BY RACE



WE

INSPIRE

IGNITE

EMPOWER

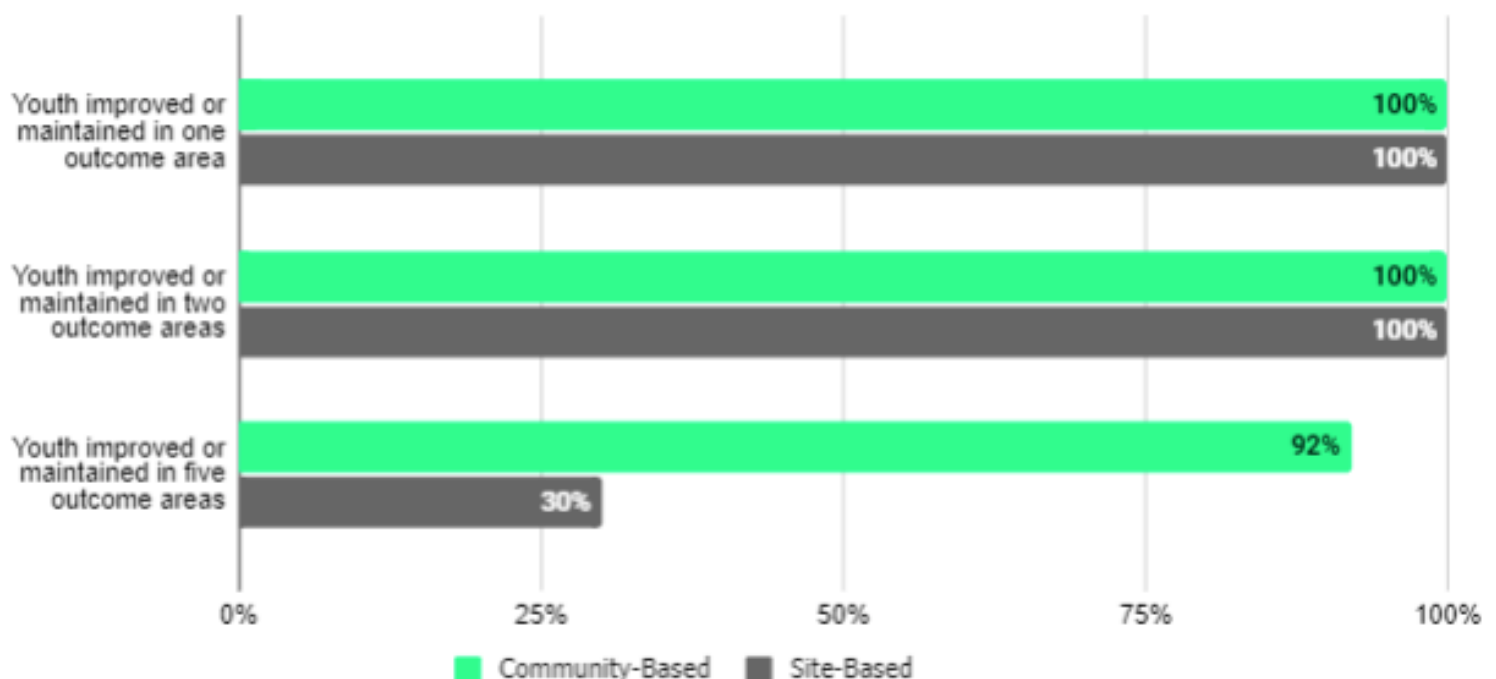
POTENTIAL

OUR IMPACT & OUTCOMES

Big Brothers Big Sisters holds itself accountable to the families, children and mentors enrolled in our program. Our responsibility is to the donors, partners, and advocates who make our work possible. We strive to ensure that all Littles and Bigs served in our programs experience quality mentoring relationships that uphold our Standards of Practice. We track outcomes that are proven predictors of long-term success, such as school attendance and engagement, and the avoidance of risky behaviors, throughout the match for ongoing program evaluation. We define success by measuring positive youth outcomes, the number of Littles effectively served by the program and the lifelong success and community benefits that follow.

We measure positive outcomes using our internal survey tools: the Youth Outcomes Survey (YOS) and the Child Outcomes Survey (COS). These tools allow us to collect baseline (pre-match) data on Littles and learn how they progress throughout their match using the follow-up survey (administered annually).

Despite the many challenges presented by the pandemic, our matches made tremendous progress in 2020, making significant improvements from baseline to follow-up in many areas measured by the YOS and COS.





MEASURABLE RESULTS

Social Competence

This taps a child's sense of belonging among and ability to get along with peers. Researchers have shown that mentoring can help a child strengthen peer relationships and increase social acceptance. Improvements in peer relations, in turn, have been linked to a range of positive outcomes, including school achievement, improved conduct, and a lower likelihood of dropping out.

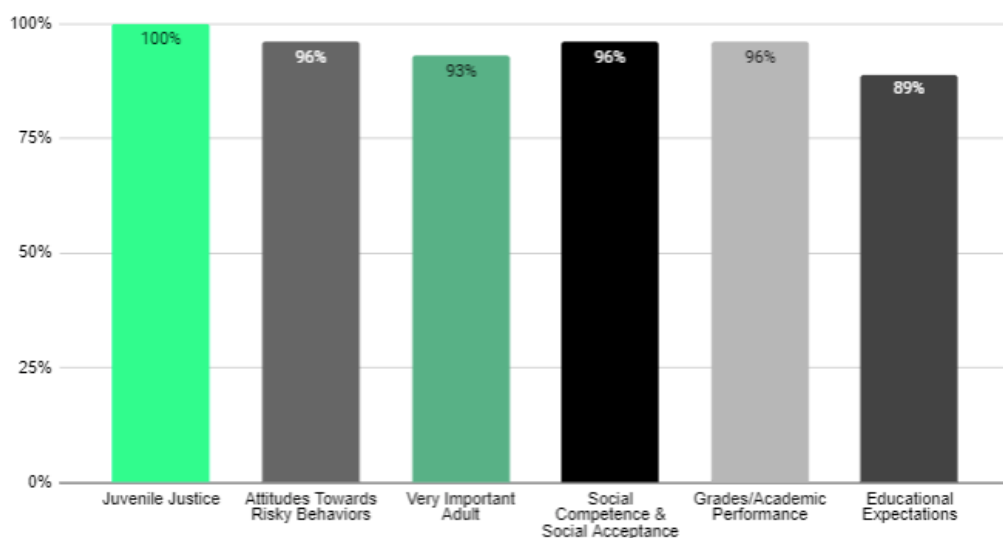
Grades

The child self-reports how well they do in mathematics, reading or language arts, social studies, science, and this information is used to get an average of their overall academic performance.

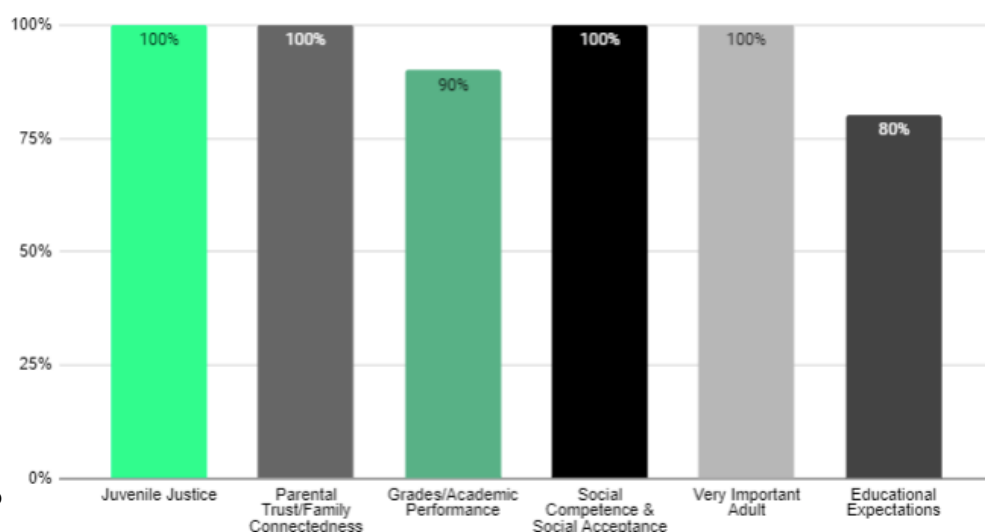
Educational Expectations

These items measure how sure the child is that they will reach different levels of schooling (finish high school, some college, finish college). Mentoring has been linked to higher educational and vocational aspirations. Children and adolescents' academic expectations and plans, in turn, have shown associations with long-term school performance and standardized test scores.

Community-Based Outcomes



Site-Based Outcomes



Attitudes Towards Risky Behavior

These items measure how a child feels when other kids their age engage in certain risky behaviors such as using tobacco, skipping school, or hitting someone. These attitudes are associated with actual risky/antisocial behavior and violence.

Special Adult

This single question asks if the child has a special adult in their life. The presence of a special adult is associated with improved school attendance and competency, parental trust, mental health, and overall promotion of pro-social behaviors, and decreased delinquency.

Parental Trust

These items measure the extent to which the child feels that they have an understanding and respectful relationship with a parent or guardian. Youth mentoring has been linked to improved parental relationships which, in turn, have been associated with improved grades and attendance and reduced substance use.

OUR FUTURE

Our agency has been using a tool called the Risk and Protective Inventory (RPI) since January 2019, which identifies the strengths and needs of a child and their family. We use this data to help better understand the needs our families have and what partnerships we need to make in the community, as well as training for Bigs, staff, and parents in a variety of areas, including trauma-informed care, social-emotional learning, prevention of juvenile justice and opioid use.

Among the risks or needs identified by parents or guardians, the top five were: single-parent household (70%), bullying in the past year (63%), household total income less than \$20,000 per year (51%), worries that affect their daily life (42%), one or more close family members has a problem with alcohol or drug abuse (36%). Of particular interest is that 27% of Littles have lost contact with an important adult role model in the last 12 months - demonstrating the critical need for BBBS mentoring.

This information has highlighted where our Littles and their families need us the most. Through all of the changes in 2020, one thing is constant: young people are full of inherent potential. We must do everything we can to surround young people with the encouragement, guidance, and opportunities to defend, ignite, and empower their potential. That is especially urgent during these uncertain times when many kids are disconnected from school, teachers, sports and activities, coaches, and family. Our work is more important than ever, and we're working with our volunteers to adapt and be there for our community's kids like never before.



A DECADE OF FRIENDSHIP

In 2021, Keton & Coy will celebrate their 10th Match Anniversary. Keton (Little Brother) was matched with Coy (Big Brother) when he was just 9 years old. Keton's mom knew he could use a positive role model and mentor in his life. Coy, a new college graduate at the time, was looking for a way to give back to the community that involved working with youth. The two instantly bonded and began their journey as Big Brother and Little Brother.

Coy says their relationship has changed over the years. When their match began, Keton was a shy, young boy without many goals. They played games and hung out outdoors. Over the years, Coy watched him grow into a confident young man with dreams and plans for the future. Now they enjoy going to dinner together and talking about the more "grown-up" things like careers, finances, and retirement. But Coy is not the only one who has seen change. Keton has learned from Coy by watching him grow into the person he is today. He has seen Coy get married, advance in his career and have a child of his own.

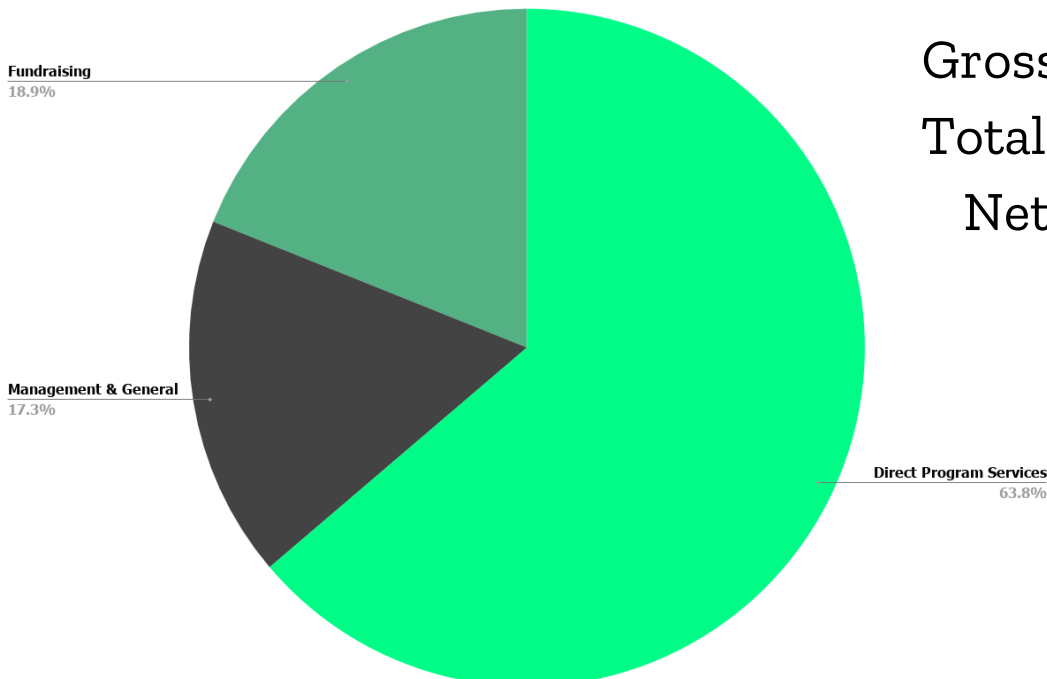
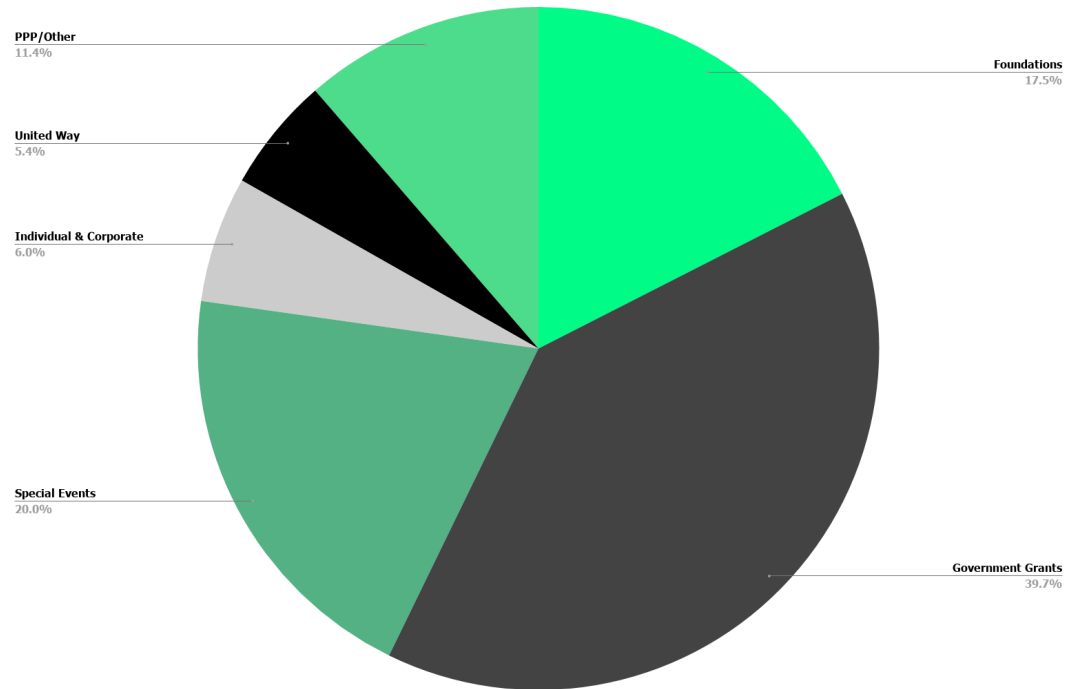
They will both tell you that they consider each other real brothers and cherish each other's families. Coy says he can't wait for the day he gets to watch Keton get married and meet his future children. Until then, they plan to stay connected as much as possible. Although Keton, now 18, graduates high school this Spring, Coy will always be his mentor and Big Brother.

To hear directly from Keton & Coy, watch their Match Story video [here](#)!





2020 FINANCIALS



Gross Revenue: \$436,252

Total Expenses: \$420,712

Net Revenue: \$15,540

THANK YOU

Our mission to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth truly captures the depth and breadth of the work we do with youth in our community. With passion and dedication to our mission, we remain steadfast and extremely committed to deepening our impact for all young people. We continue to enrich our work and in 2021 will introduce a series of initiatives that will strengthen our focus and enrich our impact. Every day we welcome new Littles into our Big Brothers Big Sisters program with the goal of igniting their potential and we couldn't do it without you. Relationships like Coy and Keton's would not be possible without the support of our donors, grantors, event sponsors, and Annual Mission Partners.

2020 PROGRAM GRANT PARTNERS



A special thanks to our

2020 ANNUAL MISSION PARTNERS

