



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Butler County

2008-2009 Annual Report

Letter from the CEO

Dear Friends,
Having been at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Butler County for 24 years gives me a perspective that few others share.



When I first started here in the fall of 1985, we had 72 match relationships. That has certainly changed as we had 841 active match relationships this past fiscal year. In 1985 we had 2.2 staff members and a 2 room office. We now fill every inch of a 5,600 square foot building with 24 individuals. What hasn't changed, though, is our sense of mission and dedication to the children with whom we work. These children have tremendous potential and are such a hidden resource. It is our mission to make sure that this potential is not wasted or ignored but rather recognized and nurtured so that we might all eventually be the better for it.

Another thing that has not changed is our decision to pursue excellence in the service we provide. Have we ever changed the way we do things – sure – we are, after all, a “learning organization”. We don't do this capriciously or without a great deal of forethought. Much of our work for the last two years has focused on examining the quality of our service. For us this means several things:

- 1) Are children actually being helped by having a mentor?
- 2) Are our volunteers, parents and children being treated fairly, equally and with a real respect for their time?
- 3) Are we doing everything we can to recruit high quality mentors for the children?
- 4) Are our fund raising efforts “beyond reproach”; encompassing a high degree of integrity and honesty?

- 5) Is our Board and Staff growing and challenging themselves to consistently be stronger and more intentional in their actions?

If and when we have found ourselves lacking, we have begun the process of changing for improvement. We believe this to be what is expected of us and we know that our services are better now than they were 24 years ago, 5 years ago or even last year.

It has definitely been a challenging year - a year in which we absorbed several financial losses, eventually causing us to make the decision to use some of our very precious reserve funding. In order to maintain our services and to accommodate the 22.3% increase in requests for service that we saw, we had to use some of it. We could not, in good conscience, ignore the needs of the children of Butler County. We hope that this next fiscal year allows us to re-coop some of these necessary resources.

I thank you for supporting Big Brothers Big Sisters in so many ways. I continue to believe that I have one of the best jobs out there. Thanks for helping us to grow in quality as well as in numbers. We promise to always continue becoming the best that we can be!

Sincerely,
Carolyn Winslow

Quality, quality, quality

At Big Brothers Big Sisters we take great pride in our programs and work daily to ensure that every child, volunteer and donor with our agency receives the best service, a strong program and is witness to AMAZING positive outcomes!

We were honored to be approached in early 2008 to play a role in a Big Brothers Big Sisters of America national pilot studying the impact of a strong school mentoring program. This pilot placed intentionality behind every decision we make and was geared toward making our matches stronger and longer for the children we serve.

To build an even stronger program we paused to examine every step we take to engage a volunteer and child. We were able to tweak the message we share during recruitment, improve our training and tailor our support for all of our program participants. The results of these changes: **TREMENDOUS** growth in the quality outcomes in our programs!

In 2008-2009 we saw these results:

- An increase of 161 new people who inquired about volunteering as a Big
- The number of volunteers who actually became matched with a child increased by 46%
- Our 6 month retention of volunteers matched with a child increased by 13%
- Our closures were down by 10%

- The average length of time that a volunteer was matched with a child was 20 months!

We also continued to see our children build developmental assets and become stronger individuals. Our teachers, parents and volunteers reported that:

- 97% of our children developed a trusting relationship with their Big
- 77% were able to avoid delinquency
- 83% maintained positive or improved academic performance
- 77% demonstrated a strong sense of future.

We are so thankful for our donor community, our committed staff, our dedicated volunteers and the wonderful families and children that make these amazing outcomes possible. We are proud of our consistent, strong impact mentoring has on children and we know that we are building a stronger community!

Thank you for the role you've played to help change the way our children grow up in Butler County!

Financial Statement of Activities

July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009

Assets	<u>2009</u>
Cash	\$ 22,415
Cash in savings - restricted	1,864
Accounts receivable	8,932
Pledges receivable - restricted	29,943
Property, furniture and equipment - - net	13,732
Deposits	<u>386</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 77,272</u>
 Liabilities and Net Assets	
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$ 3,361
Payroll withholdings	649
Accrued payroll taxes	319
Advances on grants	<u>12,141</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>16,470</u>
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	28,995
Temporarily restricted	<u>31,807</u>
Total Net assets	<u>\$ 60,802</u>
 Total Liabilities and Net Assets	 <u>\$ 77,272</u>

Thanks to our sponsors for underwriting the cost of printing and mailing this year's annual report:



Staff

Rebecca Carpeaux, Enrollment Specialist
Kedrin Cobb, Program Coordinator
Julie Dichtl, Vice President of Development
Kelley Eversole, Match Support Specialist
Katrina Freed, Program Coordinator
Melissa Gadd, Enrollment Specialist
Jessica Greene, Vice President of Programs

Michelle Grubb, Operations Manager
Kara Love, Partnership Development
Kelly Malone, Enrollment Specialist
Shana Rollins, Customer Relations Specialist
Ryan Troeschler, Talawanda Program Coordinator
Carolyn Winslow, Chief Executive Officer

2008-09 Board of Directors

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Contracted School Coordinators

Kim Bays
Sharon Brown
Carrie Green

Kim Proeschel
Allie Quast

Annual Report Contributors

Design - Justin Klefeker

It's not too late

There's still time to make a donation to Big Brothers Big Sisters this year! Tear off this form and mail it with your check or include your credit card information below. Your gift will help Big Brothers Big Sisters find, train and supervise new volunteer mentors for some of the 188 local children currently waiting for a Big Brother or Sister.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State ____ Zip _____
Email address _____ My employer _____ will match my gift.

Payment: [] check made payable to Big Brothers Big Sisters

[] credit card: Visa or MasterCard

Card number _____ Expiration date ____/____/____

Cardholder signature _____



Essays from the past year

My Big Sister goes to Miami University in Oxford and ever since she's been going to school, I really want to go to school and learn about history and other subjects. I feel I can tell my Big Sister anything. She's also my best friend.
A Little Sister

Having a Big Sister is a great thing that many people have experienced and loved. It has given many kids like me a second chance to have a friend—someone who is there when you need enough friendship that can last a lifetime. This is why I think the Big Brothers Big Sisters program is a great program.
A Little Sister

My daughter and her Big Sister have many things in common: they both love music, dogs, arts and crafts. Her Big Sister is not just a temporary person who was placed in my daughter's life. She is someone who has impacted and affected my daughter for the rest of her life!
A Mom

My Big Sister is a very cool person to hang out with and talk to. She always understands and helps me with any problems that I have with boys or just anybody in general at school. Soon she is going to be in Graduate School. She will most likely be moving out of state. When she moves, I will miss her so much. These two years have been the best two years in Big Brothers Big Sisters. Thank you for giving me the best Big Sister!!!
A Little Sister

My son's Big Brother is a very concerned Big Brother who goes above and beyond the expectations of being a Big Brother. He gets my son every Saturday and takes him to do various activities including getting him involved in community service. The Big Brother is very concerned about my son and has really shown him how to show respect to adults, including his mother, and has taken him to his job to show my son what he does for a living.
A Mom

The Big Brothers program has helped me know that others do care about me besides my family. None of my family is with me. My father doesn't want me. My sister is up for adoption. None of my grandparents spend time with me. There is no one in my home but my aunt and I. The program has given me an opportunity to possibly find someone to share me growing up to be a good man.
A Little Brother





Every time I see my Little Sister, she has a new story and adventure to share with me. Anytime someone in the program needs help or needs anything, she is there. She is supportive of everyone in the program. I have noticed a huge improvement in her attitude toward homework as well. She will give away everything she has just to help another in need. She has truly touched my life. Even though the Bigs are supposed to help the Littles, she has helped me as well. I couldn't have been blessed with a better Little Sister and I am truly grateful to have the opportunity to have her in my life.
A Big Sister

My Big Sister is the best because she is a good Big Sister. I like her because she is a good person. She is the best. I would give her an award. I would give her a million dollars if I had that much.
A Little Brother

My Big Sister is the best because she is funny and is always there for me. She also NEVER leaves me so that is why she is the best.
A Little Sister

My Little Brother is a hardworking young man. At the beginning of each program, he always does his homework, especially math. If he has no homework, he volunteers to hand out snacks and drinks. He always is looking for ways to help other kids get something done. He is a very amazing kid.
A Big Brother

Donors of Record: July 1, 2008- June 30, 2009

It takes five people to produce a successful mentoring match: the Big Brother/Sister, the Little Brother/Sister, the parent, the professional staff person, and the donor. Without the support of our generous donors, it would be impossible for Big Brothers Big Sisters to provide mentors to Butler County children. Thank you for helping to change the way our children grow up in Butler County!

Accordino, Nicholas
AK Steel Corporation Foundation
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Baker Concrete Construction
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Boehm, Dick
Boggs, Nick
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Bridgewater Falls
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Browning, Jack
Browning, Jack and Chris
Brusters
Buchert, Charles and Patricia
Burke, Dennis
Burkhouse, Beatrice
Burns, Robert
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Addiction Services
Butler County Credit Union Association
Butler County Family & Children
First Council
Butler County Job & Family Services
Butler County Juvenile Court
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Carroll, Mary

Chapple Jr, Dewitt
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Cincinnati Observatory Center
Cincinnati Reds
Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra
Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden
Cisle, Don M.
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In reports of this nature, mistakes do happen. If your name was omitted or improperly listed, please accept our apologies. If you have detected an error, please notify us so that we can correct our records.



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Butler County

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"In the Heart of the County!"

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