

The Big Update

Supporter Edition

JUNE 2023



Big Brothers Big Sisters OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

30th ANNUAL DREAM COTTAGE

The Dream Cottage is open and lots of supporters have been dropping in to take a look and buy their Dream Cottage Tickets. We have had many positive comments about the new design and the big windows. The first Early Bird Draw deadline is June 21st for a \$7500 cash prize. Get your tickets soon to be sure you have a chance to win this great cash prize. Here are two of our great summer students - Davis & Katie.



DREAMS DO COME TRUE

This spring we had the opportunity to make a "Little's" dream come true. One of our clients has unique needs, and modelling really makes him come alive. Thanks to Old Navy and their staff, we were able to set up a "photoshoot" where our Little got to model several Old Navy outfits. It was a very special event for the child, family, our staff and the staff of Old Navy. We were also able to sponsor some modelling classes for him using our Kids Opportunity Fund. We also sponsored 3 matches for a trip to the Ventriloquist show in Summerside.



MEET GINA

BBBS is proud to introduce Gina Hyson. She joined us this winter as our third Mentoring Coordinator. She replaced Pam Murray who moved on to work full time in Summerside. Gina has a great attitude and is eagerly "learning the ropes." Gina graduated from NSCC in 2015 with a degree in Public Relations and graduated from Acadia University in 2014 with a degree in Political Science. She has been working with children as a tutor for the last 12 years. Gina enjoys walking her dog, reading and going to the beach. We are very glad to have her as part of our BBBS team.



RECRUITMENT

We did some targeted recruiting in specific locations across the Island in hopes of getting volunteers to match with the 64 children & youth we currently have on our waiting list. Some of these young people have been waiting for a "Big" since 2017. We would love your support to spread the word about the work we do. Wouldn't it be great if every child who needed a mentor had access to one?





In the 2022/2023 school year we supported:



245
Students in
Teen
Mentoring

53
Community
Based
Matches

6 Tech N
Talk
sessions for
Seniors

5 Launch
Your Life
Sessions

10 Students
in the Go
Girls!
Program

16 In-School
Mentor
Matches

Through our KIDS OPPORTUNITY FUND we also supported some Littles for dance, gymnastics, modelling, cheerleading, baseball and swimming lessons.

BBBS is very pleased with how our programs are expanding and returning to near pre-Covid participation. Being a small local agency doesn't stop us from aiming BIG or trying to do our best to meet the needs of Island children and youth. We couldn't possibly do what we do without our great supporters. We are BIGGER together.

Teen Mentoring in 2022/2023 school year: Charlottetown Rural & Colonel Gray teamed up with Parkdale, Sherwood, Queen Charlotte, West Kent, St. Jean, Spring Park, & Prince St. in Charlottetown. We also had Bluefield & Central Queens, Three Oaks with Elm Street & Greenfield, Kinkora with Somerset, Montague Regional & Montague Consolidated and an internal program at Souris Consolidated. There were 245 students involved in Teen Mentoring during this school year. These programs are quickly coming to an end for this term but we are celebrating the success with cupcakes & certificates for all involved.

MEMORIAL GIVING: YOUR DONATION CAN CHANGE A LIFE

Early intervention by the Big Brothers Big Sisters team can help prevent the physical and mental effects that adverse childhood experiences can cause. By donating, you're giving a child a chance at a better future.

Honour a friend, mentor, coach, teacher or family member with a gift in their honour. If a loved one has recently passed, a gift to Big Brothers Big Sisters is a thoughtful way to honour their memory.

We will send a personalized acknowledgement of the donation to the loved one or family member, and a tax receipt will be sent to you. It will also be posted on our In Memoriam webpage. To make a gift in honour of someone special contact us.

THE POWER OF THREE

Stand with us and we will be BIGGER together – because we know the simplest acts create the biggest impact. Go beyond JUST clicking "like" buttons. Create connections. Open up opportunities. Together, we can empower a generation of limitless potential. You – as a volunteer or donor – standing with The Family + The Organization = THE POWER OF THREE. Together we can ignite the potential in all youth.