



Who We Are

Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters, now celebrating its 54th year in Connecticut, initiates the highest quality mentoring relationships between vulnerable children and professionally screened and supervised adult volunteers. Our goal is to improve the lives of children from single parent and no-parent homes and enable them to become productive, responsible society members.

We achieve this by offering a Community-Based Program, a School-Based Program, and a Foster Grandparent Program – all of which help at-risk youngsters avoid destructive behavior and reach their highest potential.

Why We Are Unique

With more than 100 years of Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring success to build on (combined with 54 years of Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring success), we invest our resources to create enduring, life-enhancing experiences for volunteers and the children they mentor.

We create each match via a time-tested six-step process. Once established, our seasoned professionals monitor, support and evaluate each match to insure positive outcomes and relationship longevity. This is why Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters is considered Connecticut's premier mentoring organization.

Little Brother Drew, age 11, is matched with Big Brother Jerry Vasylyk.

For the more than 70,000 kids we've served since our founding, we've ignited great potential.

During 2019 - 2020:

Our Community-Based programs served 484 children.

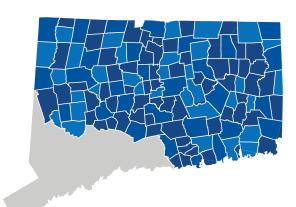
Our School-Based programs served 349 children.

Our Foster Grandparent Program operated at 35 sites, and served 346 children.

Our volunteer mentors devoted more than 140,000 hours to inspiring, teaching and bonding with their "Littles".

Volunteer mentors' time spent with "Littles" this past year was worth over \$4.Million — a huge value that your support made possible.

Our staff spent more than 24,000 hours creating and supporting life-changing matches between children in need and caring Big Brothers and Big Sisters.



95%

reported that their "Bigs" were Very Important Adults in their lives

85%

reported an increase in feelings of joy

84%

reported an increase in feelings of happiness

66%

reported a decrease in instances of school discipline

45%

reduction in depressive symptoms

43%

reduction in missed school days

25%

reported an increase in plans for college attendance



When founders **Bernie Fields** and Arthur Director began **Big Brothers Big Sisters** in CT in the early 1960s,

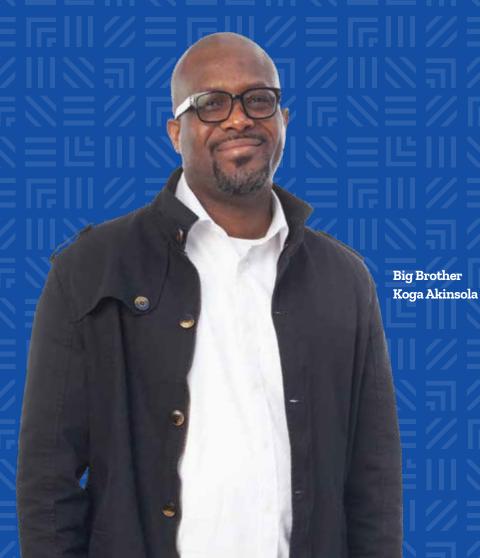
the organization covered just the Middletown area.

Now, as Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters celebrates its 54th year of helping children facing adversity succeed, we've grown our service area to include 132 of Connecticut's 169 municipalities in Hartford, Tolland, Windham, Middlesex, Litchfield, New London and upper New Haven counties (the shaded section of the map represents our statewide service area.)



Koga Akinsola, a Project Contents Consultant from South Windsor, has mentored Little Brother Jayden since September of 2020 and is **helping to ignite his potential.**

Jayden's mom is also igniting his potential. She began by enrolling him in our program. She continues by supporting him in the program. Because generous individuals and organizations like the **American Savings Foundation**, represented by Maria Falvo, President & CEO, continue to support our programs, potential is being ignited for Little Brother Jayden.





Maria Falvo

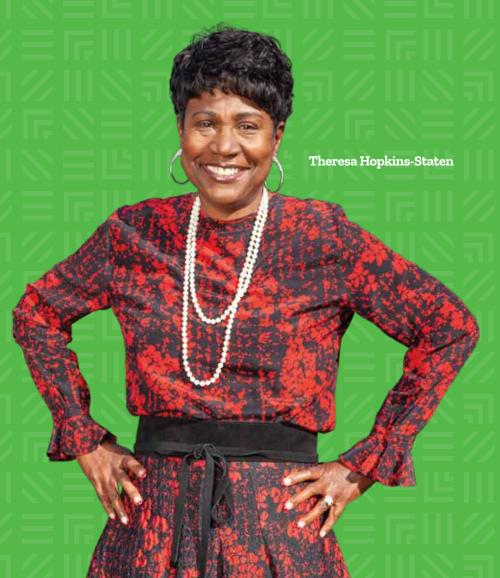


Pablo Figueroa has been a Big Brother for 6 years. He lives in Hartford and is the owner/operator of Brand Limousines. Little Brother Nyzaya would be the first to tell you that Pablo is the catalyst for his ignited potential.

Nyzaya's mom also ignited his potential when she signed him up with us. She's proud of Nyzaya's progress and supports his participation in the program.



Because generous individuals and organizations like **Eversource Energy**, represented by Theresa Hopkins-Staten, President of the Eversource Energy Foundation, continue to contribute to our program, potential is being ignited for Little Brother Nyzaya.





Kim Mauro works at Key Bank as an Experience Leader. When she's not busy seeing to all things bank-related, Kim is a Big Sister to Little Sister Natasha. Kim is honored and happy to be a major factor in Natasha's ignited potential.

Natasha's aunt also ignited her niece's potential when she enrolled her as a Little Sister in our program. She continues to advance Natasha's progress by enthusiastically supporting her progression in the program.

Because generous individuals and organizations like **Comcast,** represented by Dennis Mathew,
Vice President of Comcast's Western New England
Region, continue to support our programs, potential is being ignited for Little Sister Natasha.







Dennis Mathew



Because generous individuals and organizations like the **United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut**, represented by two members of its Board of Directors, Shellye Davis and Steven Litchfield, continue to support our organization, potential is being ignited for all the children Norma Sanchez has been mentoring at CRT Douglas Early Care Education Center.



Shellye Davis
President,
Hartford Federation
of Teachers.
AFT Connecticut PSRP
Vice President



Steven Litchfield Regional Vice President for Greater Hartford for TD Bank



Potential has been ignited for Little Sister Meladee because a Match Support Coordinator like Nagy Mishriky (right) maintains ongoing contact with Meladee, Meladee's mother and Jenn Pascal to make certain the match is progressing smoothly and adhering to the guidelines of the Big Brothers Big Sisters service delivery model.

Potential has been ignited for Meladee

because an Enrollment Specialist like Lorriane Poitras-Gallant (left), drawing on 116 years of Big Brothers Big Sisters history and her own youth services experience, worked with Meladee, Meladee's mother and Jenn Pascal to carefully create a match that's having a significant lifeenhancing impact on all participants.

Aniyah (middle) is 10-years-old and currently on our waiting list. She and her mother, who enrolled Aniyah in our program, are hoping that she will soon be matched with a caring, inspirational adult mentor - just like Big Sister Jenn Pascal. Then, Aniyah, like Little Sister Meladee, can broaden her horizons, develop her capabilities and fulfill her great potential.



Chairman's Letter

Whatever the program, Big Brothers Big Sisters' mentoring has always involved one-to-one, in-person get-togethers. At schools, universities, workplaces and front doors, Big Brothers and Sisters would meet one-on-one with mentees to have fun, bond and plan for the future.

When the pandemic reached our state, all this changed. Almost overnight, programming developed over more than a century was no longer feasible.

To protect our kids, we thought outside the box. In a few short weeks, we moved operations from in-person to virtual. Using our new Virtual Mentoring Dashboard, Bigs and Littles met online for tours, games and activities. By April of 2020, 95% of our Community-Based Bigs and Littles had moved to Virtual Mentoring.

Mentors and mentees in our School, Workplace and Foster Grandparent Programs also moved to Google Classroom and Zoom gatherings — with virtual break-out rooms to give Bigs and Littles one-to-one time. In addition, our team built a new Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum, providing fresh topics and activities for each week.

I'd like to thank our Bigs, Littles, families and partners for being so open to new approaches. I'd also like to thank our dedicated staff, whose hard work made this great new programming possible. Our team's innovations now equip us to provide more Connecticut children with top quality mentoring than ever before. Onward!



Ted Cutler
Chairman, , Board of Directors
CEO, Tecton Architects





President's Letter

If the past year showed us how resilient and adaptable our kids and staff can be, the coming year will show how ready they are to keep moving forward.

As we return to in-person programming, we will continue to offer Virtual Mentoring for those facing travel restrictions — ensuring more kids and mentors can stay connected. We will keep building out our Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum, so that children and mentors in all programs can use it throughout the year. And we'll continue to promote home-based projects through Science and Art Fairs that encourage intellectual exploration and creativity.

Most indicative of our post-pandemic mindset, in the coming year we will launch our first major postsecondary-school program, Big Futures.

Understanding that 18-year-olds are not children but young adults, we will seek to clarify and support their aspirations for higher education, job training, jobs or enlistment. We will work with new partners to ensure that, whatever a young person's goals, we're providing them with optimal resources – while also giving mentors, parents and guardians the information they need.

Amid all this innovation, our mission remains constant: To provide young people with one-to-one mentoring that helps them reach their highest potential. Thank you for all you do to help us provide this critical support to deserving young people!



any Fleischno-

Andy Fleischmann President & CEO

The percentages and numbers below all add up to IGNITED POTENTIAL for so many kids across Connecticut.

CHILDREN	ADULTS
MALE: 47%	MALE: 36%
FEMALE: 53%	FEMALE: 64%
AFRICAN AMERICAN/ WEST INDIAN: 28%	AFRICAN AMERICAN/ WEST INDIAN: 10%
ASIAN 1%	ASIAN 6%
BI-RACIAL: 6%	BI-RACIAL 2%
CAUCASIAN: 22%	CAUCASIAN: 66%
LATINX/PUERTO RICAN: 41%	LAT/PUERTO RICAN 15%
OTHER:	OTHER:

1%

2%

AUDITED FINANCES Fiscal Year July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

\$2	2,018, 960
\$	904,762
\$	583,741
\$	209,079
\$	76,907
\$	200,748
\$	41,888
\$	1,835
\$2	2,039,767
\$	1,827,252
\$	212,515
\$	555,007
\$	(20,807)
\$	534,200
	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$





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Little Sister Meladee age 12



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Our Community and Site-Based Programs



Our Beyond School Walls **Site-Based Program** is now in its 12th successful year. It's sponsored by Comcast and is held at its Berlin facility with Comcast employees – like Big Sister Vicky Gallo - serving as mentors to children in the program – Like Little Sister Amynhas, from New Britain's Lincoln Elementary School. The program, due to the pandemic, has been meeting virtually, and looks forward to getting together in-person as soon as possible.



Our On-Campus Site-Based Mentoring Program takes place at UConn and Eastern Connecticut State University with students from those schools mentoring children from the Windham School District in ways that ignite their potential and help them succeed in life. Pictured, pre-pandemic, are Big Sister Rachel Alexander, right, and her Little Brother, Lyric.



Our Foster Grandparent Program has been meeting virtually at 35 Site-Based locations each week in Greater Hartford and Eastern Connecticut. In the program, senior mentors, like Lorraine Dollard – far left – (Foster Grandparent of the Year for Eastern Connecticut) – pass along their love, knowledge and life experience to adolescents needing their attention and guidance. Mrs. Dollard is pictured, prior to COVID-19, with a group of her mentees from the Groton, Connecticut area, and their parents.

are continually IGNITING POTENTIAL.

One of our standout **Community- Based Program** matches, Big Brother
Michael Johnson and his Little
Brother Zamarion, were an audience
hit as featured speakers at our Annual
Gala this year, which was held
virtually rather than in-person for
the first time in the long history of
Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters.



the pandemic, they had to get creative with their scheduled get-togethers. Lately they've been connecting via Zoom – where they read books, talk and make salad, soap and natural facial masks with yoghurt and lemon.

Big Sister Siobhan McGirl, a broadcast reporter with NBC Connecticut, is matched with Little Sister Jahyleeanne of New

London in our Community-Based Program. With the onset of



Our Big Sister of the Year, Nicola Culmo and her Little Sister Jenalys, posed for the candid photographer at a photo session for one of our Annual Report photo sessions prior to the current health crisis. Nicola — who teaches biology, anatomy and physiology at William H. Hall High School in West Hartford — has been a Big Sister with Nutmeg in our Community-Based Program since 2015.



Big Brother Pablo Figueroa – our Big
Brother of the Year – and his Little Brother
Nyzaya have been matched in our
Community-Based Program for the last
four years. Prior to COVID-19, they loved
meeting up in person for all sorts of match
activities. Now they communicate
electronically and love that almost as much.
They're pictured here in a pre-pandemic
visit to their favorite Chuck E. Cheese
restaurant/entertainment center.

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