



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters**
OF SARNIA-LAMBTON

2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Enabling life-changing mentoring relationships to ignite the power and potential of young people.

www.sarnia.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca

THEORY OF CHANGE

ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION

To enable life-changing mentoring relationships to **ignite** the power and potential of young people.

VISION

All young people realize their full potential

WHO DO WE SERVE?

Young people who face adversity AND are in need of an additional consistent and supportive **Developmental Relationship**¹

HOW DO WE IGNITE POTENTIAL?

- » By intentionally **recruiting** based on the needs of a community's young people
- » By **matching** young people with a **professionally screened** volunteer mentor
- » By **monitoring and supporting** that match with a professional caseworker
- » By **training and supporting** the mentor, the mentee and the family
- » By **building a Developmental Relationship** between the mentor and the mentee that: Expresses Care; Challenges Growth; Provides Support; Shares Power; and Expands Possibilities
- » By **graduating** the match relationship towards natural support

WHAT IS THE IMPACT?

Young people graduate our programs with **measurable outcomes**:

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL COMPETENCE

- » Relationship skills
- » Social awareness
- » Responsible decision-making
- » Self-management
- » Self-awareness

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

- » Positive identity
- » Mental wellness
- » Social inclusion & empowerment

EDUCATIONAL ENGAGEMENT & EMPLOYMENT READINESS

- » School connectedness
- » Commitment to learning
- » Enhanced constructive use of time

¹ "Developmental Relationships Framework." © 2018 Search Institute, Minneapolis, MN. www.search-institute.org

"He's pretty funny, helps me through a lot of things, he's very encouraging, like family, like a real brother".

– Little Brother September 2023



2023-2024 marked my 16th year with the agency and my 4th year in leadership. With the support of my incredible team and our dedicated Board of Directors, we experienced another successful year, filled with growth, learning, and continued commitment to the youth we serve.

One of my ongoing goals in leadership is to stay connected to the front lines of our work. It's essential to me that I remain involved in our programs and support my staff as they carry out the important work we do. Their successes are truly our successes, and I strive to ensure each team member feels empowered to make decisions and knows they belong within our organization. Although our team is smaller than in previous years, we are stronger and more united than ever. Our team has built a foundation of trust, positivity, and a shared vision as we move forward into the next chapter of our agency.

I want to take a moment to recognize and celebrate the retirement of Donna Sharpe, who gave over 30 years of service to this agency. Donna has been a pillar of support to countless families, volunteers, and children, and her commitment to our mission has shaped the agency into what it is today. We wish her all the best in her well-deserved retirement and thank her for her extraordinary dedication.

Our priorities remain steadfast—providing safe, high-quality mentoring to youth at risk in Sarnia and Lambton County. While the landscape of service delivery has evolved over the years, our core values continue to guide us. We are committed to volunteer recruitment and retention and reducing our waitlist to serve even more young people in need of positive mentorship.

Fund development continues to be a critical focus. WE have had great success and community support in all fundraising events we do. Our team continues to ensure we are coming up with new and relevant ideas to ensure they are successful. Our ability to provide meaningful programming relies heavily on the financial support of our donors and event sponsors, and we are deeply grateful for the continued generosity of those who believe in what we do.

A special thank you to our volunteers. Your gift of time, mentorship, and dedication to the youth in our community makes everything we do possible. We simply could not exist without you.

This year, I would also like to highlight the unwavering dedication of our Board of Directors, whose involvement has been instrumental in driving the success and growth of our agency.

A special thanks to Andrea Hands, who has done an outstanding job in her first year as Chair. Andrea's leadership, alongside the commitment of each board member, has brought a renewed energy to our organization. Their active engagement is key to our continued success, and we are excited about the future we are building together.

Finally, I want to express my gratitude to our wonderful staff. Your passion, resilience, and hard work make a difference every single day. Some days are hard, some days are fun, some days are sad, but everyday you come and give 100%, I see this and I appreciate each of you. Together, we have achieved great things this year, and I am confident that we are moving forward with a strong vision and an even stronger sense of purpose.

It remains an honor to serve as Executive Director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Sarnia-Lambton. Every day, I am reminded that our success as leaders comes from the strength of our team and the collective efforts of those who surround us.

Warmly,
Kaylen Burgess
Executive Director



TREASURER'S REPORT

	2024	2023
Revenue		
Fundraising	222,959	215,095
Grants	110,648	137,382
United Way	130,000	130,000
Donations	117,088	61,310
Rental	17,200	9,900
Misc	33,756	1,180
Total Revenues	631,651	554,867
Expenditures		
Amortization	1,404	3,406
Dues & fees	10,939	12,000
Bank Fees	42	647
Copying	2687	2634
Computers	7887	8419
Employee benefits	52,929	51,973
Fundraising expences	49,499	23,477
Insurance	24,820	60,382
Maintenance & janitorial services	338	12
Membership fees	1073	1669
Mileage	1492	1998
Postage	306	153
Program expenses	6610	6450

Continued on next page



	2024	2023
Expenditures ctd.		
Professional development	640	234
Professional fees	10,429	8,411
Public relations	1,462	1,973
Rent	34,726	34,726
Supplies	5,484	9,417
Telephone & Internet	2,946	3,046
Wages	272,612	309,531
Total Expenditures	490,325	540,558
Excess of Revenue over expenditures Before other income	141,326	13,129
Other Income		
CEBA loan forgiveness	10,000	0
Interest	2,575	1,180
Excess of Revenue Over Expenditure	153,901	14,309

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Sarnia Lambton, I am pleased to present the Treasurer's Report for the 2023- 2024 fiscal year.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Sarnia Lambton programming continued to prosper this past fiscal year.

This was made possible by the continuous generosity from corporations and individuals in our community. The fundraising committee's creative efforts to keep annual fundraisers thriving such as the "Show and Sale" and "The Big Squeeze" as well as bring new innovative events are much appreciated and vital to the success of the organization. These events bring in crucial supports from vendors, patrons, volunteers, and company sponsorships.

The organization's revenue is well diversified between donations, grants, and fundraising. Revenue increased 14% over the prior year, while the organization's expenditures decreased 10%. Overall, the organization had a surplus for the fiscal year and thus an increase in net assets. Management and the board have made sound financial decisions, as shown by the year end surplus, maintaining healthy cash and investment balances and minimal debts.

Thank you to the United Way and all donors from this past year. All donations and volunteer contributions are valued and appreciated. The children and youth could not experience the benefits of the Big Brother Big Sister's programs without this support.

-Shelby Hampshire , CPA CA
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Sarnia-Lambton Treasurer

OUR EVENTS

Spring Show & Sale 2023

On Saturday, April 30th we hosted our 3rd annual Spring Show & Sale. Our generous friends at Sarnia Carpenters Local 1256 were our lead sponsor for the third year. Thank you Local 1256!

This year we were thrilled to be back at our Show & Sale home, Alexander Mackenzie Secondary School. Thank you to the LKDSB, and AMSS staff for your support year after year in this event.

We hosted 110 local vendors, makers and artisans (75 in 2022) and 1243 shoppers in this one day show (1100 in 2022).

This event continues to grow in popularity each year, we are looking forward to growing it into the success that we see in our fall show year after year.

Our 3rd Annual Spring Show & Sale raised \$46,66.14 for our youth mentoring program in Sarnia and Lambton County (\$37,203.35 in 2022).

A BIG thank you to the Show & Sale committee, our vendors, the community and all of our generous sponsors for this event!

Carpenters Local 1256
 Bluewater Power
 Coldwell Banker Southwest Realty
 North End Appliance

Personal Touch Eatery & Catering
 Saucier Heating & Cooling
 Windsor Factory Supply Ltd.
 North End Appliance



Dueling Pianos 2023



This past year we teamed up with our friends at Imperial City Brew House on two separate occasions. We wanted to bring something different to Sarnia, something fun and new.

We welcomed Dueling Pianos Niagara on May 12th & March 22 for two SOLD out evenings!

These nights brought out a new crowd of supporters and continued to strengthen the partnership between BBBS and Imperial City. We are grateful to Rina and her team for allowing us this space to raise funds and awareness for youth mentoring.

A big thank you to our event sponsors Robert E Dale Ltd and Initial Real Estate.

Combined these two evenings brought in \$28, 386.37 for our youth mentoring program in Sarnia and Lambton County.

Slow Roll 2023

In June of 2023 the 2nd Annual Slow Roll took place. This growing event welcomes hundreds of cyclists of all ages for a slow roll across the city of Sarnia.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Sarnia-Lambton has been the very fortunate recipient of the Slow Roll funds for the last two years. This year we were presented with a \$10,000.00 donation on behalf of the committee.

Thank you for supporting what we do and allowing us to be a part of this new and exciting event.



The BIG Squeeze 2023

On August 9th we hosted our 3rd BIG Squeeze in Sarnia and across Lambton County. This year we had 62 businesses (34 in 2022) take part in the city wide lemonade competition. This is another one of our team's favourite events! It is so fun to see how much to community gets involved in this and it is truly a day of community collaboration.

A BIG Thank you to our sponsor, North End Appliance & Riverside Print

Congratulations to our 2023 winners, MacFarlane Chevrolet & Imperial City Brew House.

This event raised \$27,609.60 (\$19,000.00 raised in 2022) for our youth mentoring programs in Sarnia and Lambton County.



CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT 2023

OUR EVENTS



On a very hot Sunday, August 20th we hosted our 1st ever corn hole tournament with our friends at Big Family Brewing Co. Board member, Nick Stokley took the lead on this successful event, we appreciate his support!

We had 27 teams, some friendly competition and some great live music from BREN.

Thank you to our event sponsors, Lam Sar Inc & Lam Sar Engineers & Contractors!

Thanks to this event, we raised \$5914.27 for youth mentoring in Sarnia and Lambton County.

The 50th Show & Sale 2023

We welcomed just over 2900 shoppers and hosted over 100 vendors at our 50th Annual Show and Sale. This milestone was a big one for our agency, we took this opportunity to bring some nostalgia to the event.

Long time supporter and sponsor, Catherine Wilde & FLECK Law led this event as sponsor for the 7th year. Cathy's presence at the event is always enjoyable and we are grateful for her continued support.

This event requires many hands, we are grateful to all of our dedicated volunteers who made this event possible. Our dedicated committee continues to make small changes to this event to ensure success, they also understand that after 50 years many aspects should be left as is.

This event raised \$70,713.94 (\$63,000.00 in 2022) for our youth mentoring programs in Sarnia and Lambton County.

Thank you to our Show & Sale 2023 Committee

- Catherine Wilde
- Johanna Brownlee
- Lisa Armstrong
- Kerry Dykes
- Karen Kuley
- Lynn Cogswell
- Carol Stokley
- Sandra Morrison
- Melissa Matthews
- Autumn Hollinger
- Kaylen Burgess

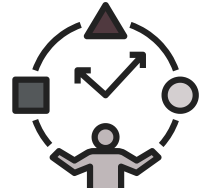


OUR IMPACT



629 young people mentored

28,000+ hours volunteered



CHALLENGES GROWTH

95% of guardians said that their child has learned a new skill and experienced something new since being involved in our programming.



EXPANDS POSSIBILITY



EXPRESSES CARE

96% of youth exhibit confidence that is observable by volunteers, family and/or coordinator.



PROVIDE SUPPORT



SHARE POWER

89% of youth in our ISM program said they look forward to seeing their mentor each week.

97% of guardians in the 1:1 Community Based program say their child is much happier since being matched to their mentor.



COMMUNITY BASED 1:1 MENTORING

121
MENTORED

"Since [my child] has been in the **Community Based 1:1 Program** her mental health has completely improved, every issue she had coming into the program has been addressed and resolved, having her Big Sister in her life has changed our lives."

-Parent, February 2024

44
MENTORED

BIG BUNCH / WAITING LIST PROGRAM

"**Big Bunch** focuses on the kids and what they need. My son always comes home happier than when he left. I did not know this group existed in Sarnia and I am grateful we have been able to be a part of it. It has made the wait for a Big Brother a lot easier for him. Thank you."

- Big Bunch Parent, 2023

GO GIRLS & GAME ON

340
MENTORED

"**GO Girls** has been one we welcome every year into our school. A lot of our students struggle with healthy relationships, self image and boundaries. This group brings all of that and so much more. I feel the students have a sense of calm when they come back from program each week. They are learning tools and bringing them back to the classroom. We appreciate this program and what it offers to our students here in Sarnia."

- Teacher, Sarnia 2024

120
MENTORED

IN SCHOOL MENTORING

- "Having a mentor makes me feel important" - Zachary (age 7)
- " My mentor helps me when I'm having a bad day, and listens to me" - Layla (age 9)
- " After seeing my mentor, I can focus better in class" - Austin (age 12)
- " My mentor shows up for me each week, and would never turn his back on me" - Connor (age 11)

PLATINUM LEVEL SUPPORTERS

United Way of Sarnia-Lambton
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Anonymous Donor

GOLD LEVEL SUPPORTERS

Sting Assists
Slow Roll – Bluewater Granfondo
Magfrat Foundation

SILVER LEVEL SUPPORTERS

Catherine Wilde
Curran Contractors
Carpenters Union Local 1256
Robert E Dale
Mazda Rising Stars

BRONZE LEVEL SUPPORTERS

J Siphens
Maria Beauchamp
Cabot
Plains Midstream
Muhammad Haleem
Quinton Saarloos
GC Telecom Solutions
After Hours Rotary
North End Appliance
Steve Park – Coldwell Banker
Bluewater Power
Michael Kooy
TIE Foundation



Thank
you!

OUR DONORS 2023/2024

Adrienne Smith
 Agatha Gare
 Alison Ewart
 Allan McEwen
 Andrea Wist
 Angela MacDonald
 Angela Maure
 Angie Barrese
 Anita Trusler
 Ann Burnside
 Anne Goulden
 Annie Sheehan
 Barb Paul
 Barbara Brennek
 Becky Andali
 Becky Bellavance
 Betty Minielly
 Bill Reckman
 Bob McPhee
 Brandon Elliott
 Brenda Bourett
 Brenda Bourret
 Brian Dennis
 Carol Gilmurray
 Carole Legere
 Carolyn Callaghan
 Carolyn Pennie
 Carrie Beauchamp
 Carrie Fisher
 Carrie McEachran
 Cary Meyer
 Catherine Creber
 Catherine Dishke
 Catherine Wilde
 Cathy Vandevenne
 Cathy Young
 Chelsea Cooper
 Cheryl Kelly
 Christine Greydanus
 Christine Kirchmair
 Cindy Dowdle
 Cindy Slipacoff
 Colette MCGarvey
 Corinne Webb
 Cynthia Mccoleman

Daniel Maure
 Daphne Clark
 Daphne Lounsbury
 Darlene Falls
 David & Janice VanDommelen
 Dayna Langlois
 Deanne Sandrin
 Dharavi Balusani
 Dianna Donkers
 Don & Liz Pray
 Donna Douglass
 Donna Minielly
 Edna Wilde
 Elizabeth Carson
 Elizabeth Taylor
 Georgia Bryan
 Gerri Boudreau
 Gerry and Carol Hall
 Gisele Bonin-Savage
 Glen,Edna,Tracey Annett
 Handan Resebi-Klve
 Heather Wray
 Helen Elliott
 Jacob Feenstra
 James Burgess
 Jan Herbert
 Jan MacKinnon
 Jane Hames
 Janice Culp
 Jeannette Mellon
 Jeff & Frances Loerts
 Jennifer Deslippe
 Jennifer Tomkins
 Jennifer Ziegler
 Jill Magermans
 Jill Wales
 Jim Butler
 Jim coyle
 Joanne Hines
 Joanne Toulouse
 John & Madhu Baker
 John Damoiseaux
 Johnathon Webb
 Judy Brown
 K Patrick McGill

Karen & Carl Gray
 Karen & Grant Edwards
 Karen Blondin
 Karen Grace Winter
 Karen McClintonk
 Karen McMahan
 Karen Riley
 Kate Cribb
 Katherine Porter
 Katherine Walker
 Kathi Shaw
 Kathleen & Donald Moore
 Kathleen Alexander
 Kathryn J Weston
 Kathryn Sterling
 Kathy Boyd
 Kathy Dubois
 Kay Hickey
 Kelly Dann
 Kendra & Brian Feenstra
 Kenneth Clark
 Kevin Marriott
 Kim Mackenzie
 Kim McDonald
 Kirsten Grant
 Krishnadatt bhola
 Laurie Smith
 Laurie Somers
 Lee Duncan
 Lee McMurphy
 LeeAnn Westerberg
 Leonard & Sheila Anderson
 Leslie Green
 Lewis Mitchell
 Linda Haney
 Linda Inch
 Linda Miller
 Linda Reed
 Lindi Inch
 Lisa Bennett
 Lorna Cooper
 Lynda Donovan
 Lynn Baarschers
 M West
 Mabel Cook

OUR DONORS

OUR DONORS 2023/2024

Madison Twose
Maggie Miller
Manjit Brar
Marcia Hogan
Marg Robbins
Margo Harrison
Maria Dylewski
Marie Wilhelm
Marilyn Sandrin
Marilyn Swire
Mark Moran
Mary Lou Denning
Mary Vaughan
Matt Lorbetzki
Matt Szucs
Matthew Prior
Maureen Kelly
Melody Borthwick
Michael Hurry
Mike Butler
Mildred Dodge
Millers Home Hardware
Building Centre
Monica Kennedy
Monica Riddell
Mr. & Mrs Paul Whitely
Mr. & Mrs. Larry W Prince
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Ramsay
Nadyne Dell
Nancy Grogan
Nancy King
Nancy Lockhart
Nathan Hickey
Neamon Barwell
Nell Vrolyk
Nicole Hutchinson
Nicole Kirkland
Norma Hills
Optimist Club of Sarnia
Lakeshore
Pam Graham
Pamela Raaymakers
Patricia Cote
Patricia Slipacoff
Paul Dylewski
Paul Jackson
Peg Dawkins
Personal Touch Eatery & Catering
R & T Felder
Ralph Sprenger
Rebecca Brydges
Rita Kaufmann
Rob & Sandy Ferguson
Robin Holt
Robyn Mortimer
Ronald Forbes
Rosaleen Carr
Ruth Mattingley
Ryan & Isabelle Burfield
Sam & Kelly Taylor
Sandra Perkins
Sarah McSwain
Shannon Grimme
Shannon Peters
Sharon McGrail
Sharon Ravensberg
Shawn zentner
Shelley Flamminio
Shelly Ikert
Stacey Severs
Stephanie Abercrombie
Stephen Nickels
Susan Armstrong
Susan Doughty
Susan Vansteenkiste
Susanne Mcrae
Susie Abrametz
Tamara Johnson
Tara Duff Cloes
Toby Sansom
Tracy Wilson
Trevor King
Velma Skam
Virginia Elliott
Wayne & Gail McMurphy
Wayne Stewardson
Wendy Dirven
Wendy Fazio
Wendy McCoy
Wendy McLean
William Barwies
William Wells
Yvette Caron
Yvonne Soulard

OUR DONORS



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters**
OF SARNIA-LAMBTON

10 Lorne Crescent
Sarnia, ON
N7S 1H8
519.336.0460



Enabling life-changing mentoring relationships to ignite the
power and potential of young people.

www.sarnia.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca