

## **Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County Holds Inaugural “Men of Action” Event Focused on Male Participation in the Agency’s Mentoring Programs**

**SANTA ANA, Calif. – June 23, 2015** – Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County recently held its inaugural “Men of Action” event at the Marconi Automotive Museum in Tustin, Calif. The annual event is designed to bring together male leaders to share ideas for assisting youth in the community, including continued expansion of the agency’s team of mentor “Bigs.”

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County currently has some 200 Little Brothers awaiting connection with a Big Brother. During the evening’s program, Friedman outlined six ways attendees could help young people on the agency’s waiting list.

In addition, advice on how young professionals can build their careers was shared by a panel representing Disneyland, Farmers & Merchants Bank, First American, Honda Center, Irvine Company, Orange County, Young Executives, Plus Four Management and Wohl Investment Company.

“We are seeking to recruit additional male mentors and leverage our existing male mentor network for the benefit of the communities we serve,” noted Melissa Beck, CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County. “With the help of our new Men of Action program, we can fulfill our vision that every child deserves a caring mentor and the support they need to reach their full potential in life.”

The event was hosted by Rob Friedman, Chairman of [Auction.com](http://Auction.com) and member of the agency’s Board of Directors. [Aucton.com](http://Aucton.com) also sponsored the gathering that featured networking, refreshment and fine cars.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County, one of the national organization’s leading local agencies in the country, provided more than 2,700 children facing

adversity with professionally supported, one-to-one mentoring relationships in 2014. Positive outcomes have included: 98 percent graduated high school on time, 83 percent enrolled in college, and 100 percent said their “Big” was their biggest influence on pursuing a higher education. For more information, visit [www.bigbrooc.org](http://www.bigbrooc.org).

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### **About Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County**

For more than 100 years, Big Brothers Big Sisters has operated under the belief that inherent in every child is the ability to succeed and thrive in life. Most children served by Big Brothers Big Sisters live in single-parent and low-income families, or households with a parent who has been incarcerated. It is the nation’s largest donor and volunteer supported mentoring network and makes meaningful, monitored matches between adult volunteers (“Bigs”) and children (“Littles”). The organization’s system of ongoing evaluation and support has been proven by independent studies to help families by improving the odds that “Littles” will perform better in school, avoid violence and illegal activities, and have stronger relationships with their parents and others. Headquartered in Dallas, Texas, with a network of nearly 400 agencies across the country, Big Brothers Big Sisters serves a quarter-million children annually. In 2014, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County served over 2,700 children. For more information, visit [www.bigbrooc.org](http://www.bigbrooc.org).