



**MENTORING YOUTH.
CHANGING FUTURES.**

Big Brothers Big Sisters Named to OC Business Journal's 2017 Best Places to Work List

SANTA ANA, Calif. (July 24, 2017) – Big Brothers Big Sisters has been named one of the Top 100 Best Places to Work in Orange County, a project of the Orange County Business Journal and Best Companies Group.

The county-wide award recognizes places of employment in Orange County that benefit the local economy, its workforce and businesses. Eligible organizations were evaluated by their policies, practices, demographics and, most importantly, an employee survey worth 75 percent of the process. The top organizations and final rankings were determined by the combined scores.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County and the Inland Empire differentiates itself as a nonprofit that focuses on open-mindedness, vulnerability and collaboration within its staff.

“The people that work here at Big Brothers Big Sisters are professional, dynamic and empowered individuals who want to make a difference,” says CEO Melissa Beck.

Big Brothers Big Sisters aims to cultivate an environment that boosts business efficiency while maximizing employee potential. The executive team and board of directors continually invest in employee development, which Beck considers vital to the strength of the agency and its ability to grow and serve more youth within the community.

Last year, Big Brothers Big Sisters launched a large-scale development program that consists of shadowing for entry-level staff, management training, 360-degree feedback and annual service projects. An extension of the initiative also empowers employees to spearhead committees that focus on retention, engagement, wellness and incentivization.

Other progressive policies in place provide a full salary for the duration of an employee’s maternity or paternity leave; allow employees to work from home; and help employees maintain health and wellness. This dynamic approach aids in long-term retention for employees as well as an overall boost in morale and productivity.

Additional benefits and fun perks of working at Big Brothers Big Sisters include paid vacation, a matching 403(b) plan, health and life insurance, a wellness committee, Taco Man Mondays and generous holidays — including a week off between Christmas Eve and New Year’s Day!

“We are here to give everyone the support and guidance they need to be successful,” Beck says, adding that one of the agency’s goals is to “create the most progressive, forward-thinking nonprofit in the country.”

One of the national organization's leading agencies in the country, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County and the Inland Empire annually provides more than 3,300 children facing adversity with professionally supported, one-to-one mentoring relationships. One-hundred percent of children in the program graduated high school on time, 96 percent enrolled in college, and 100 percent said their mentors were their biggest influence on pursuing a higher education. For more information, visit ocbigs.org.

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About Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County and the Inland Empire

Big Brothers Big Sisters believes that with the support of a caring mentor, every child has the ability to achieve his or her full potential. It is the nation's largest donor- and volunteer-supported mentoring organization, serving a quarter-million children annually. Based in Santa Ana, Calif., the Orange County agency was incorporated in 1958 and works as a local extension of the national effort to make professionally supported, one-to-one matches between mentors ("Bigs") and children ("Littles") facing adversity. Together with the Inland Empire agency, which opened its doors in 2013, the local organization annually serves more than 3,300 children through programs that improve the odds of youth performing better in school and avoiding violence and illegal activities. For more information visit ocbigs.org or follow Big Brothers Big Sisters on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).