# A BOLD PATH TO A BIG FUTURE



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County & the Inland Empire

FISCAL YEAR 2023 | ANNUAL REPORT



## LETTER FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Mentorship has never been more important or more relevant.

As Surgeon General of the United States Dr. Vivek H. Murthy noted, "loneliness and isolation represent profound threats to our health and well-being. But we have the power to respond. By taking small steps every day to strengthen our relationships, and by supporting community efforts to rebuild social connection, we can rise to meet this moment together."

The Surgeon General has also pointed out that mentorship programs are one of the best ways to help students build this connection. Mentorship is the solution to our growing disconnected student population, to supporting anxiety and depression though social emotional engagement, to educational attainment.

Students in our mentoring programs achieve major milestones that are indicative of long-term success — first generation high school diplomas, postsecondary planning and ultimately a living-wage job.

Mentorship is the social fabric that holds communities together and we are committed to cultivating more caring and connected youth in our cities.

Thank you for your partnership, collaboration and integration with our services to combat isolation with connection.

We are Bigger Together!



Luca Come

**SLOANE KEANE**Chief Executive Officer

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# Our IMPACT





Mentoring connects a young person to personal growth and development, education, and social and economic opportunity. Yet one in three young people will grow up without this critical asset.

Together with our volunteers and families, Big Brothers Big Sisters empowers, inspires and ignites potential.

#### HOW WE EMPOWER THEM



We Connect those who are ready for mentoring via families, schools and community-based outreach.



We Provide meaningful mentoring experiences through 1:1 and/or specialty programs as supported by Big Brothers Big Sisters staff and mentors.



We ensure tailored support for specific communities and customization to meet Littles'

goals and needs.



We Are Building a diverse We Are Building a diversion community of Bigs via targeted recruitment efforts, corporate partnerships, and organic intake.



We Prepare Bigs through training, coaching, and match support.



We Partner with families on all elements of the BBBS experience and provide training / support to strengthen youth protection.



We Empower Families to extend their support networks via connections

made in BBBS and referrals to wrap-around services.





of Littles



BIGS Youth (15-18) Adults (18+)



Children (6-12), Teens (13-17) Young Adults (18-24)









Building Social Capital



Education & Career Success

We empower every young person on a path to graduate high school, pursue a plan for their future, improve their wellbeing and mental health, with a mentor whose impact will last a lifetime.



Improved Mental Health



Positive Behavior & Choices



Social capital means having access to a network of people who can provide information and resources and open doors to meaningful career opportunities. Yet, for many low-income and underrepresented communities, that access is limited. At Big Brothers Big Sisters, we are in the business of human connection. Mentoring helps bridge the gap for those young people who — due to circumstances beyond their control — would otherwise be cut off from the types of social networks that can help them realize their full potential.

One such success story is Monica, who, despite facing hardships like homelessness, remained determined to excel. Her Big Sister, Pilar, recognized Monica's potential and connected her to educational alternatives, opening doors to new opportunities. Another mentor, Marie, saw Monica's brilliance and resolved to help her navigate the college application process. Thanks to their guidance and support, Monica was accepted into multiple top-tier colleges, including Stanford University.

The journey didn't end there. Marie continued to be Monica's pillar of support during the pandemic, ensuring her safety and enabling her to graduate from Stanford in 2023. With her sights set on a future in real estate and sustainability, Monica plans to return to her hometown to address housing insecurity and give back to the community that shaped her. Her success story showcases the transformative power of mentorship and the significance of leveraging social capital to uplift the next generation of leaders. Big Brothers Big Sisters serves as a crucial link in this process, uniting volunteers, families, board members, donors, and community partners to invest in and defend the potential of our youth.



#### **MENTORED YOUTH ARE:**

More Likely to be **Enrolled in College** 

More Likely to Be **Employed and Earn** 13% Higher Wages





Our mentors can be the difference between a child dropping out of school and being the first in their family to earn a high school diploma. They serve as a source of motivation and encouragement for our young people, boosting their confidence in their academic abilities and their belief in their potential to achieve higher than they may have ever thought possible.

accepted into the Honors program at a prestigious university, something he didn't think was possible. He saw the impact mentoring had on his life and he wanted to become a mentor himself. He joined our High School Bigs program and is now changing Chris's life, a kind kid who credits staying out of trouble to Eddy's guidance and consistent presence.



For me growing up it was difficult. I didn't have many people to guide me. I had to figure out a lot of things for myself. Having someone like Brad where if I mess up he can just pick me up is so comforting... things I had questions to suddenly I had answers. Now I understand more than just a blue-collar world.

When Eddy joined our program, he was a shy, undocumented student who lacked direction in his life. He met his mentor Brad as part of the Workplace Mentoring Program and his life changed. Brad was supportive, helpful, and provided a listening ear for Eddy whenever he needed it. This support and care helped Eddy find his path, and he has now been



of students from low-income families attend college

of our youth have plans to attend postsecondary education



### Improved Mental Health



The majority of the youth we serve are being raised by a single parent, grandparents, a sibling or foster parents. Connecting them with a dedicated mentor guarantees that there is someone who cares about them and their emotional well-being. It assures them that they are not alone in dealing with life's challenges, even when it may feel that way.



Growing up in a volatile home environment due to his parents' substance abuse, Ethan found stability and support in his Big Brother, Justin. Despite the turmoil, Justin provided a safe space for him and became a crucial advocate for his well-being. When Ethan's father passed away from addiction-related complications, Justin's unwavering presence helped him navigate the grief. This consistent mentoring disrupted the cycle of trauma, empowering Ethan to dream of becoming a nurse while his mother, Jaclyn, triumphed over addiction to become a licensed clinical therapist.

Through our prevention-focused and solutionoriented approach, we build healthier family structures and more connected communities. allowing every young person like Ethan to reach their full potential, regardless of their starting point in life. Justin's lasting impact on Ethan's moral code and values highlights the transformative power of mentorship and the potential it unlocks for the next generation.

of BIPOC youth report mental health issues at least once a week



of our youth reported maintained or improved mental health



### Positive Behavior & Choices

The youth we serve have the potential to change the world. But facing isolation, poverty, abuse, homelessness and food scarcity puts them at greater risk for poor academic achievement, mental health issues and risky behaviors. Mentors are there to provide them with guidance, model positive behaviors, and encourage goal setting that helps them see that it's our choices that control our future, not our circumstances.

Amidst a background of childhood trauma and family instability, Little Sister Marlee, found solace and support in her Big Sister, Megan. Despite being separated from her siblings and moving through the foster care system, Megan remained a constant presence in Marlee's life, offering guidance and serving as a positive role model. Megan's unwavering dedication helped Marlee navigate the darkest moments, offering a safe space for reflection, journaling, and healing.

Through Megan's consistent mentorship, Marlee found a renewed sense of hope and direction. Together, they set achievable goals, leading Marlee to make positive changes in her behavior, improve her grades, and embrace new experiences like sports and learning a new



language. Megan's constructive conversations and guidance empowered Marlee to take personal responsibility for her actions and shape her own future, providing her with the support she needed to navigate life's challenges.

#### EMPOWERED BY

National Efforts



Special Thanks to









#### COMPARED TO THEIR PEERS. YOUTH IN OUR PROGRAMS ARE:

Less Likely to Be Arrested

Less Likely to Have Engaged
In Substance Abuse

# OUR PROGRAMS IN ACTION

Big Brothers Big Sisters offers six innovative mentoring models, all focused on building connections between a young person and a mentor. Whether it's out in the community or in the workplace, these programs are all built on the foundation of connection. It's what sets us apart and allows us to be a prevention-focused, solution-oriented organization.



#### COMMUNITY-BASED

Adult volunteers are matched with youth/children ages 6 to 16 and meet twice a month for enriching experiences to build their bond, develop trust, and provide mentees with the stability and support system they may need. We support matches up until the age of 24 with additional college and career resources as part of our Alumni Association.



#### BIG COUPLE

Couples who are interested in volunteering together can be matched with a Little Brother as a Big Couple. This option allows for ultimate flexibility for couples juggling work and other commitments as they are able to spend time with their Little together or on their own.



#### SCHOOL BASED MENTORING

Also known as High School Bigs
High school student Bigs are matched with
elementary school Littles and mentor them once
a week during the afterschool program. Bigs
build relationships with their Littles, assist with
homework or reading, promote socio-emotional
development, and engage in themed weekly
activities, facilitated by BBBS staff.



We believe in the power of mentoring and are proud to collaborate with the Big Brothers Big Sisters on two workplace mentoring programs that not only contribute to the growth and development of local youth and young adults, but also provide an opportunity for our Cast Members to make a profound impact on the lives of future leaders in our community.

- Kim Chips, Senior Manager, Corporate Social Responsibility, Disneyland Resort



#### COLLEGE BIGS

College student Bigs are paired with a firstgeneration college bound high school student and meet once a month to discuss their lives and plans after high school. Facilitated sessions include resume writing workshops, college application workshops, and open dialogues about race, class, and gender.



#### **WORKPLACE MENTORING**

Prepares high school, community, and 4-year college students for the workforce. In this work based learning experience students are paired with a corporate and industry mentor who supports their preparation for college and/or a career, building their leadership skills and enhancing their 21st century foundation skills to be prepared for the workforce.



#### EXPANDED SUPPORT

Wraparound services ensure our youth, families and volunteers have access to the essential resources they need in order to thrive in our program. The Family Resource and Engagement team, Mentor Engagement Specialist, and College and Career Specialist provide support beyond the 1:1 mentoring relationship through quality community partnerships.

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### Our Supporters Change Futures

#### Thank You to Our 2023 Donors

#### GOVERNMENT

Anaheim Elementary School District Anaheim Union High School District California Community Colleges

- through the Social Changery
California Department of Education

- through Corona Norco Unified

California Department of Education

through the Orange County
 Department of Education

California State Coastal Conservancy

City of Anaheim CDBG

School District

City of Corona CDBG

City of Riverside CDBG

Fontana Unified School District

Garden Grove Police Association

Moreno Valley Unified School District

OJJDP

- through Big Brothers Big Sisters of America

Riverside City Firefighters'

Association

Riverside County Board of Supervisor

Third District, Supervisor

Washington

Riverside County Office Of Education

Riverside County Probation

Department

Riverside Unified School District

Riverside University Health System

San Bernardino County Board of

Supervisor District Fourth,

Supervisor Hagman

San Bernardino County Sheriff's

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Savanna School District

Substance Abuse and Mental Health

Services Administration - through

Parkview Legacy Foundation

The California Board of State and

Community Corrections

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Wach Holdings LLC Walter's Automotive

Waters Edge Wineries
WAXIE Sanitary Supply

Waypoint Property Group, LLC

We Care: Plumbing, Heating, Air, & Solar

White Cap
Willis Towers Watson

Windermere Tower Properties

Woodard Group

Word & Brown Companies

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Wohl Investment Company

Zimmermann

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FOUNDATIONS 2003 Eagle Foundation Albert B. Cutter Memorial Fund Albert J. Crosson Family Foundation American Endowment Foundation Anderson Community Partners Angelitos de Oro Angels Baseball Foundation Arby's Foundation **Argyros Family Foundation** Banc of California Charitable Foundation Bellweather Charitable Foundation Bisou Bailey Foundation Blanc Family Foundation / AYCO Capital Group Companies Charitable Foundation CapRock Partners Giving Foundation Charities Aid Foundation of America (CAF) Charity on Top Foundation College Futures Foundation Croul Family Foundation D&D Charitable Foundation

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Michael J. & Susan D.

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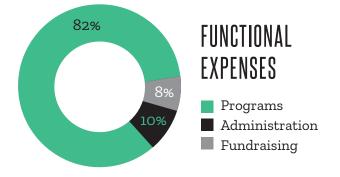
Foundation

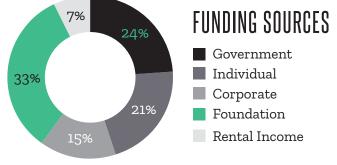
Wingate Foundation

# FINANCIAL POSITION

#### Fiscal Year End June 30, 2023

**REVENUE** \$8,749,868 **EXPENSES** \$9,199,615 OTHER INCOME \$1,439,169 CHANGE IN NET ASSETS \$989,422





\$25,556,002

\$30,053,537

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#### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

TOTAL NET ASSETS

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS** 

**CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS** \$3,877,845 **INVESTMENTS** \$16,903,130 GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVABLE \$1,021,790 PREPAID EXPENSES AND OTHER ASSETS \$590,081 OPERATING RIGHT-OF-USE ASSET \$115,696 PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT (net) \$7,544,995

TOTAL ASSETS	\$30,053,537
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & ACCRUED EXPENSES	\$712,084
OPERATING LEASE LIABILITY	\$117,265
DEFERRED REVENUE	\$373,749
NOTE PAYABLE	\$3,294,437
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$4,497,535
NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	\$25,556,002

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### Get Involved

#### Mark Your Calendars for Our 2023-2024 Events

Our work wouldn't be possible without a dedicated network of champions in the community. Volunteers commit thousands of hours to make a one-to-one impact, while donors and corporate partners invest in those relationships with dollars that fund recruitment efforts and professional case management. Join us at one of our signature recruitment or fundraising events and be part of the mentoring movement that ignites potential for local youth.

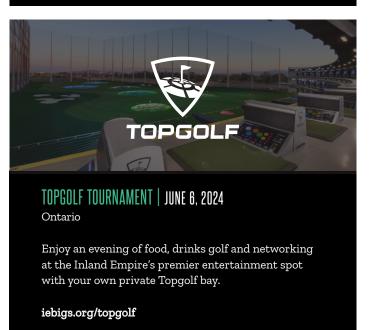
















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angelitosdeoro.org



In my short time as a college student, before I met Bianca, I was filled with anxiety and struggled to sleep at night. Despite being introverted, Bianca navigated our conversations with ease, making sure I was comfortable and at ease with anything I may want to talk about. She has become a guide and a person to fall back on if I happen to stumble. I am so grateful for her and hope to return even 1% of the 99% that she gives me.

- Cal State Fullerton Workplace Mentoring Mentee, Ruby

# 65 YEARS

of empowering communities and advancing upward social and economic mobility through mentorship.



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