

IMPACT REPORT 2022



Big Brothers Big Sisters®

OF METROPOLITAN CHICAGO

WITH GRATITUDE

It is my pleasure to share with you the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Chicago 2022 Year in Review! While the world around us went through many stops and starts, you have been a driving force to move this mission forward. 2022 brought the return of our large-scale events, helping to strengthen the BBBSChi community and remind everyone of the urgency of this work, while raising critical funds to support our mentoring matches. And as you will see in the Impact Report, we had a lot of exciting developments this past year. BBBSChi:

- Impacted...thousands of children and families' lives, with Bigs investing almost 95,000 hours in meetings and outings with their Littles
- Elevated...our ongoing commitment to JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion) through trainings, discussion series, and our popular Representation events
- Accelerated...Drive for 5, with the opening of our second regional office in the Austin neighborhood
- Kicked off...Big Sports, providing youth with equitable access to sports and play
- Reunited...for our signature events, including Tailgate, Big Bash,
 Live Big and Graduation

We invite you to learn more about the new services provided, investments made and lives that have been changed thanks to your ongoing support.

Bigger Together,

Jeremy Foster
CEO, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Chicago

OUR WHY: INSPIRING YOUTH EQUITY & EMPOWERMENT

OUR MISSION

Create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth

OUR VISION

That all youth achieve their full potential

"My Big would always remind me how smart and capable I was.

Her impact truly helped me face adversity."

- Little Sister Joeal

"I can finally initiate conversations, express myself and walk with pride and pure resilience."

- Little Sister Brenda



BIG PICTURE



of Littles built and grew peer relations

1,700

90%

of Littles demonstrated ability to regulate emotions

Life-changing mentoring relationships

99%

of senior Littles graduated High School 95%

of senior Littles go on to college/ university, military or job training



99%

of Littles avoided incarceration or arrest

KICKED OFF...



Our newest initiative matches Bigs and Littles across Chicagoland who are interested in sports. Big Sports provides youth with equitable access to play, a healthier lifestyle and a system of support. Thanks to DICK'S Sporting Goods and Alvin H. Baum Family Fund for underwriting the Big Sports launch!

PARTICIPATE	SPECTATE	EXPLORE
Youth are exposed	Provides group	Exposure to
to different sports,	outings to sporting	career
receiving access to	events throughout	opportunities off
health and wellness	Chicagoland,	the field or court
opportunities, new	building lifelong	
facilities, and safe play	fans and memories	

The Chicago Fire FC hosted a BBBSChi Field Day, taking Bigs and Littles through drills and games, facilitating a panel discussion on careers in sports and inviting them to watch a match against NYCFC.





Thanks to our generous donors and the teams themselves, matches have been able to attend Bears, Blackhawks, Bulls, Cubs, Dogs, Fire, Red Stars, Sky, White Sox, Wildcats, and Wolves games all year long!

REUNITED ...

In 2022, we celebrated a full year of events — getting back together to strengthen the BBBSChi community and bring in necessary funds to create and support thousands of life-changing mentoring relationships.



TAILGATE

We announced our first-ever Match of the Year:
Big Sister Molly and her Little Chayse. First
matched via Zoom in the height of the pandemic,
Molly and Chayse have given each other a
creative outlet and continued to up the
creativity with each new and noteworthy outing.

LIVE BIG

The 8th Annual empowerment event was reimagined, featuring a panel of women from a variety of industries — from finance to medicine to behavioral science — engaging with female-identifying matches.



ig Brothers Big Sisters Big Si

GRADUATION

On June 9, we celebrated 77 graduating seniors and their Bigs, awarding scholarships and our Big of the Year. A panel of alumni and a Chicago Youth Poet Laureate set the stage for an inspiring evening.

ELEVATED ...

Since Big Brothers Big Sisters' founding more than a century ago as an alternative to the juvenile justice system, JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion) is embedded in our DNA and part of our origin story. To this day, it remains our top priority and is elevated through various initiatives:

- Hosted "Representation" events throughout our service area, creating a space for LGBTQ+ Bigs and Bigs of color to network, share about their experience in the program and invite friends to join the mission
- Amplified youth, family and volunteer feedback through ongoing interviews, surveys and councils
- Lead "Bigs Discussion Series" and trauma-informed trainings for volunteer education and support
- Shared outing ideas, community events, group tickets, and educational/career resources through our Family and Volunteer Engagement Coordinator



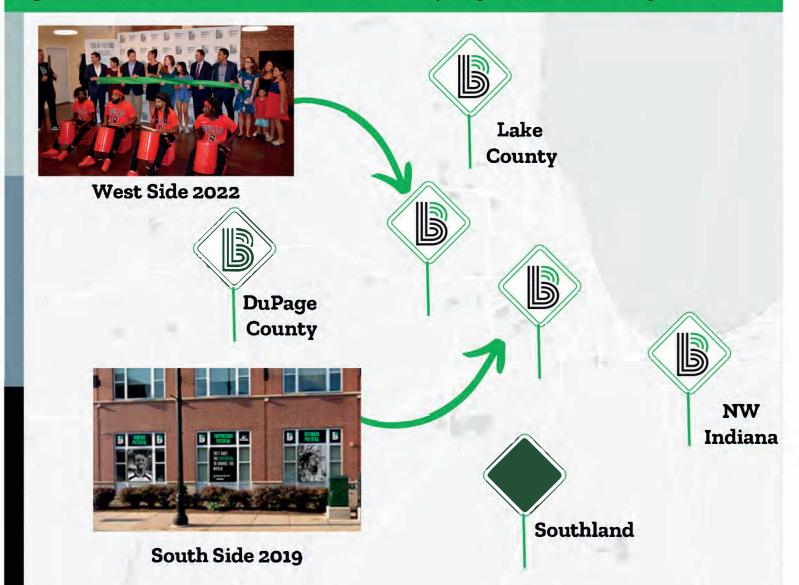


WE WERE BORN OUT OF JUSTICE, TO CREATE EQUITY FOR YOUTH, BRINGING TOGETHER DIVERSE COMMUNITIES, SO THAT ALL KIDS CAN FEEL INCLUDED IN THE PROMISE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR A BETTER LIFE.

ACCELERATED...



As part of our continued drive to reach 5,000 children and ultimately double the number of youth and families we serve, BBBSChi opened its second regional office this July in the Austin neighborhood on the West Side of Chicago. Creating this crucial presence in the community was made possible thanks to the support of all of the Drive for 5 donors and foundational investments from BMO, Caerus Foundation, Chicago Bulls Charities, GTCR, and United Scrap Metal. Our Austin neighborhood office, in partnership with the Westside Health Authority, follows the 2019 opening of our Englewood office as part of BBBSChi's strategic plan to ramp up investments in communities where the majority of our waitlisted youth reside.



1

Additional Regional Office on Chicago's West Side

60

Site Based Programs
Brought Back
Together

150

Communities Served

94,369

Hours Bigs Invested in Match Outings



IMPACTED...

Each year, there are thousands of stories to share from every outing, milestone and match. We want to introduce you to just one of the matches you helped create and support.

MEET AFIFA & DAWN

Little Sister Afifa was matched at 10 years old in our MaineStay Neighborhood Mentoring Program with Big Sister Dawn. Meeting every other week, Afifa says she grew alongside Dawn — going out of her comfort zone, gaining support, a safe place to belong and a lifelong friend.





5 YEARS LATER...

Both Dawn and Afifa have doubled down on their commitment to the mission. In 2022, Dawn started a role at BBBSChi as our new Family and Volunteer Engagement Coordinator, and Afifa joined the team as our Summer Marketing Intern.

"Big Brothers Big Sisters has transformed me into a better person. Dawn believed in me, and that made me believe in myself too. BBBS helped me turn into the confident, independent, and creative young adult I am today. I wouldn't be where I am if it wasn't for the love and support of my Big Sister."

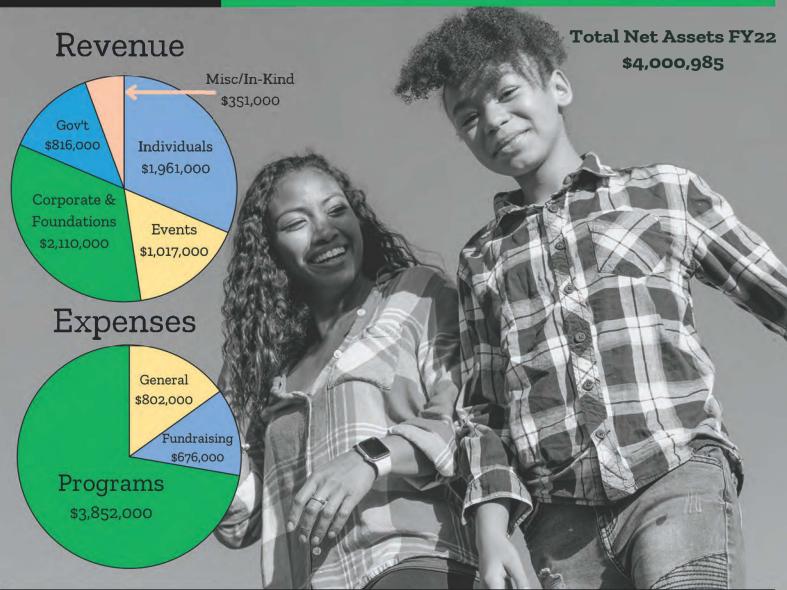
- Little Sister Afifa

View Our Form 990



\$6,255,707

Generous philanthropic support



IT TAKES A VILLAGE. VIEW OURS:

We are so grateful for our donors, Match Makers, dedicated partners and board members that empower Chicagoland youth. Scan the QR code to see a full list of partners.



BIGGER TOGETHER

BBBSChi is a community of volunteers, families, staff, partners, and champions that sustain this life-changing mission throughout Chicagoland. Thanks to you, we can continue to impact more kids and families and inspire more mentors to lean in for young people when they need it most.

Looking for new ways to join the mission?

Spread the Word

Follow @BBBSChi and share good news.

Become a Match MakerTM

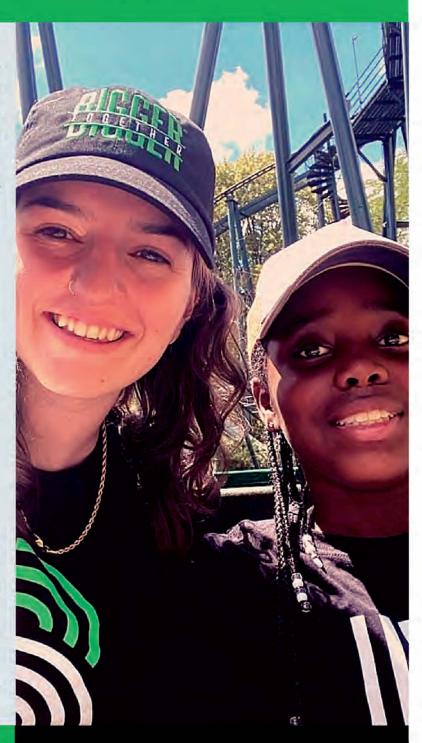
Match Makers empower the potential of children through monthly giving. By making a recurring gift, you will help introduce a waiting Little to their Big every month.

Join at bbbschgo.org/matchmakers

A Big Legacy

Have you considered naming Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Chicago in your will or estate plan? Your generous commitment to the future of BBBS will have a lasting impact on our community. Please let us know about your intentions, or learn more by contacting David Gee at gee@bbbschgo.org or 312.207.5601.

"I joined Big Brothers Big Sisters so I could find someone to talk to. And then I met Alex, and he was more than a friend. He was like a brother." - Little Brother Laurice



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(as of 11/27/2023)



