

# It Takes a Village

2021 Annual Report





# Letter from our Board President

We have a terrific team of staff, bigs and littles who work every day to complete our mission, but they can't do it alone. They need supporters like you on our team.

#### Dear Friends,

The last time I wrote to you in our Annual Report, we gave thanks to our bigs, littles and staff for their creativity and resilience in working to continue our mission of igniting potential and serving our youth within the limitations of a pandemic. COVID is still with us, but, thankfully, we have learned how to deal with it and adjusted to a new normal. As a result, our bigs and littles are once again able to continue their mentorship face-to-face, the way it was always meant to be.

Our mission is to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth. That cannot be accomplished without a team working together to meet that goal. We have a terrific team of staff, bigs and littles who work every day to complete our mission, but they can't do it alone. They need supporters like you on our team.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and thank you for being a part of our team.

Edward Gould, Board President



# Letter from our Executive Director

Are you looking for a way to make a direct impact? Consider becoming a Big!

Dear Friends,

We made it through another unusual and challenging year. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Mid-Maine proudly served 391 youth, launched an innovative "Bigs with Badges" program, expanded our capacity to serve more kids by hiring additional professional program staff, and, together, we supported and defended the potential of our youth.

Are you looking for a way to make a direct impact? Consider becoming a Big!

Our vision is that all youth achieve their full potential. Our mission is to create and support one-to one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Mid-Maine's mentoring programs are a critical part of keeping children mentally healthy.

We are keenly aware that there is another pandemic in our world, so prevalent that the Surgeon General issued a special statement concerning protecting youth mental health in 2021. I encourage you to read about it, and consider how you will stand with kids.

https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/surgeon-general-youth-mental-health-advisory.pdf

Big Brothers Big Sisters youth mentoring programs are part of the solution. We give kids HOPE for their future.

Always for Kids' Sake,

Levendolep

Gwendolyn Hudson, Executive Director

# Our 2021 Impact









100 Waiting to

\$1,500
To support a match

one year

### **OUR MISSION**

To create and suport one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth in Androscoggin, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Penobscot, Somerset, and Waldo Counties

391 Kids Served in 2021

35 YEARS combined serving local youth

BIGS with BADGES Est. October 2021





# **Lorem Ipsum**



# **Bigs with Badges**

"Bigs with Badges" launched in 2021. The program piloted in Augusta at Gilbert Elementary School where students are paired with a "Big" in local law enforcement. Great support and participation from Augusta Police Department has made Bigs with Badges possible with positive feedback from school leadership and students.

#### Give a Little Love

In 2021 we launched the "Give a Little Love" fundraising campaign in an effort to support 100 more youth through positive, life-changing youth mentoring. This campaign raised over \$90,000 in much needed funds and culminated in a virtual celebration event on May 12th. It was fantastic to see such a wide variety of corporate and individual support throughout our service area.



# Bates Bo Broth

# **Keeping Kids Connected**

Due to the ongoing pandemic, many children in our program experienced periods of isolation. After 20 long months of suspended, in-person match meetings at our school-based programs, Bigs and Littles were happily being reunited in October. While our staff worked hard to ensure matches stayed connected through pen pal writing and weekly message exchanges, it can never take the place of face-to-face conversations.

# Lexi & Sophia - A Match Reunited!



When 7-year-old Sophia needed someone to stand with her, Big Sister Lexi was there. Every week, she showed up, provided consistency, positive guidance, and friendship.

Nearly a decade later, Sophia was recently reunited with the high school mentor who helped shape her life, encouraged her to succeed, and influenced Lexi to become a Big Sister herself!



# **Our Supporters**

We would not be able to ignite the future potential of hundreds of children we serve throughout Maine without our broad network of support. Thank you to our generous donors, corporate partners, volunteers, and our Bigs, who make it all happen!



#### 2021 Give a Little Love





# 2021 Golf Fore Kids' Sake Presenting Sponsors





# Our Financials

Support,	Revenue	and	Gains
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	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Totals
Fundraising events & sponsorships	\$189,233	\$ -	\$189,233
United Way	-	69,877	69,877
Grants	20,382	155,370	175,752
Corporate giving	21,713	3,500	25,213
Individual giving	102,448	78,000	180,448
In-kind donations	21,996	-	21,996
Interest income	115	-	115
Net assets released from restrictions	248,747	(248,747)	-
Total support, revenues & gains	604,634	58,000	662,634

#### **Diversified Revenue**

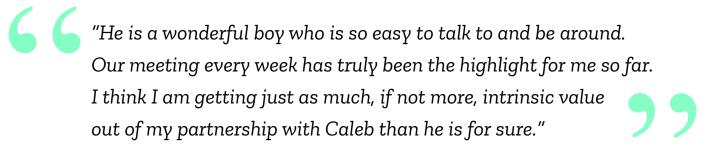
\$200,000.00 \$150,000.00 \$100,000.00 \$50,000.00 \$-						
<b>.</b>	Events & Individual Givin Sponsorships	g Grants	United Way	Corporate Giving	In-kind Donations	Interest Income
Expenses						
Program serv	rices		268	3,552	-	268,552
Fundraising	ing 171,956		-	171,956		
General & ad	ministrative		34	1,497	-	34,497
Total expense	es		475	5,005	-	475,005
Change in	ı Net Assets		129	),629	58,000	187,629
Net Asset	s, Beginning of Year		212	2,370	27,000	239,370
Net Asset	s, End of Year		\$341	.,999	\$85,000	\$426,999

Audited as of December 31, 2021

# Meet a Match: Chief Mills & Caleb



Caleb, a fourth-grader student at Gilbert Elementary School, was connected to Chief, Jared Mills of the Augusta Police Department through the "Bigs with Badges" program that launched in 2021. Chief Mills meets with Caleb on a weekly basis and calls it the "highlight of his week." By chance, Caleb's grandfather happens to be a former Augusta Police Department employee and was good friends with Chief Mills. Caleb was quite excited by this and thrilled to be matched with Chief Mills!



- August Police Chief & Proud "Big Brother", Jared Mills

Each week they watch movies together, play on the playground and share laughs. The secretaries of Gilbert Elementary often sit outside the room during Caleb and Mills' visit have said all they hear is laughing and joy from both with Caleb stating that he had a "great time!"

# Our Team & Governance

# Big Brother Big Sisters of Mid-Maine Staff

Mae Slevinsky, Program Supervisor & Special Events Manager, Kennebec & Somerset

Monica Charette, Communications Manager

Jennifer Cartmell, Special Events & Program Manager, Androscoggin

Ted Fournier, School-Based Manager, Kennebec & Somerset

Haley Stearns, Program Manager, Knox, Lincoln, and Waldo Counties

Elizabeth Bushnell, Program Manager, Penobscot & Waldo Counties

**Gwendolyn Hudson**, Executive Director

# Big Brother Big Sisters of Mid-Maine Board of Directors

Edward Gould, Board President, Partner, Gross, Minsky & Mogul, P.A..

Greg Jones, Board Vice President, Branch Manager, Machias Savings Bank

Jared Merritt, Board Treasurer, Treasurer, Camden National Bank

Sarah Peabody, Board Secretary, Strategies Analyst, Bank of America

Mark St. John, Chief Information Officer, Maine General Health

**Andrew Fortin-Trimble,** Director of Marketing, Skowhegan Savings Bank

Matt Donahue, Chief Impact Officer, United Way of Eastern Maine

Cristina Salois, Agency Director, Southern Kennebec Child Development Corporation

**Gwendolyn Hudson**, Executive Director, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Mid-Maine



# **Get Involved**

## Become a Big

For just a few hours a week, you can give a Little the invaluable gift of friendship and help change their life. It's as simple as hanging out, doing things that you already love to do. For more information, please contact us at 207.236.2227 or send an email to info@bbbsmidmaine.org.

#### Donate

When you donate to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Mid-Maine, you join our cause and directly support children in your community. No matter how little or big the amount, donating can start making a difference in the lives of young people. You can give through our website or by mailing a check to 66 Elm St. Camden, ME 04843

#### Join our Team

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Mid-Maine is a leading employer, offering competitive salaries and benefits, a flexible schedule, generous paid time off, travel reimbursement, and professional development. Check for open positions on our website at: bbbsmidmaine.org/about-us/careers.

#### Refer a Little

We serve children in Androscoggin, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Penobscot, Somerset and Waldo counties. Enroll a Little on our website by visiting: bbbsmidmaine.org/enroll-a-child, or by calling us at 207.236.2227 today!

#### **Become a Corporate Partner**

Looking for a way for your company or organization to start something for kids in your community? Do your community a service and start a partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Mid-Maine! To learn more about the many ways you can support our agency, please contact info@bbbsmidmaine.org.

#### Join a Committee

Leverage your professional experience in service on one of our committees or as a board member. BBBS of Mid-Maine's board and committees are compromised of a diverse group of individuals across a wide variety of industries and professions. Email info@bbbsmidmiane.org to connect with one of our board members and learn more!







info@bbbsmidmaine.org bbbsmidmaine.org

#### **Main Office**

66 Elm Street, Suite #100 Camden, ME 04843 207-236-2227

# Kennebec Valley Office

2351 North Belfast Ave. Augusta, ME 04430 207-592-4616

### **Androscoggin Office**

Lewiston/Auburn 207-653-3857