



**Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Windsor Essex**

2018 Annual Report

2018 has been an exciting year for us as nearly 800 children and youth were served. Our Board of Directors remains once again committed to our vision that every young person in Windsor-Essex who needs a mentor will have a mentor.

The young people in our programs are less likely to be bullied, less likely to engage in bullying behavior and develop more positive coping strategies than their peers who do not have a mentor. As well, children in our programs perform better in school and go on to post-secondary education at a higher rate than young people without a mentor.

Mentoring also gives back to our community. For every dollar invested in Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentoring Programs, \$18 are returned to Windsor Essex as a child's future earnings potential, charitable giving & time spent volunteering. Our programs break the cycle of poverty and strengthen our community!

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the outstanding contributions of our professional and dedicated staff who dedicate endless hours to the agency in support of our volunteers, youth, and their families by providing training and support, including our Executive Director, Becky Parent, our Director of Programs, Rose Culmone, our newly appointed Director of Development and Donor Relations, Kieran McKenzie and Program Team, Kellie Abbott, Nicole Seguin, Jasmine Taylor, Chelsie Lefaive, Laura Brown, Lauren Michaelis, Dhai Omar, Vicki Hedge, Barbara Browning & Deb Gray-Libby for their outstanding commitment to our children and families.

We would also like to thank the dedicated volunteers and donors who help the agency deliver programs, run special activities, help support the activities of the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Windsor Essex Foundation. The donation of time or money is essential in helping the agency support mentoring relationships in our community. Special recognition goes to all the volunteers who serve on various committees that support both the Agency and Foundation, including members of the Battle of the Hors D'Oeuvres, Bowl for Kids Sake, Special Activities and Program Committees.

And finally, allow me to thank my fellow members of the Board. Our Board of Directors continues to focus on providing the highest level of governance and fiduciary oversight to ensure that the agency continues to deliver high quality programs, recruit and sustain volunteers, and achieve financial sustainability. At the end of 2018 we developed a dynamic strategic plan, focusing on increasing our impact, amplifying our voice, strengthening our leadership, and enhancing our sustainability. In 2019, we continue our work operationalizing this plan, within the context of the other excellent work being done in our community by our community partners as well as other youth-serving organizations and funders.

These are exciting times for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Windsor Essex as we now have entered the second half of one century. Over the course of the next several months we'll be reaching out to you to tell us how we can make the next 50 years our best yet.

Brittany Rife
President, Board of Directors

MISSION STATEMENT

We commit to the young people in Windsor-Essex that we will be leaders in providing them with the highest quality mentorship and that their success will be our priority in every decision we make.

2018 Board of Directors

Brittany Rife, President
Kieran McKenzie, President
Adam Frye, Vice President
Lauren Lalovich, Treasurer
Jacquie Reaume, Secretary
Danielle Gifford, Secretary
Sandra Bortolin
Cessidia Debiasio
Monique Diotte
Nolan Goyette
Ali Rankin-Nash (visiting)
James Sarkis
Andy Sullivan

Bob Speroni (honourary)

VISION STATEMENT

**Every Young Person in Windsor Essex Who Needs a Mentor,
Has a Mentor.**

Proud Funded Partner of:



**United Way
Centraide**
Windsor-Essex County

Supporting the Mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Windsor Essex

Successful Young People – It’s our brand new mission here at BBSWE – one that our board and staff worked extremely hard to develop through the lens of our work expressing very simply, everything we’re hoping to achieve for the community of Windsor Essex. Making positive matches, making sure every child who needs a mentor has a mentor is yes, the bones of what we do, but what are our mentors hoping to achieve? We dug deep mid-way through 2018 to examine our motives and more importantly, examine the strength of our core work relationships in order to clarify our goals. **Successful Young People** is our mission and we know that introducing a young person to a caring, supportive, strong and committed adult mentor is the most effective way to get them there. What do we mean by **SUCCESS**?

SUCCESS in their relationships with their parents and grand-parents,
SUCCESS in their relationships with their peers,
SUCCESS in their relationships with their teachers, coaches, and other supportive adults and finally,

SUCCESS in determining a strong sense of self, a strong understanding of their own strengths and how to leverage those strengths toward a fulfilling future.

For many, **SUCCESS** will mean excellent grades and attendance at college and/or university, for many others, **SUCCESS** will mean a more positive attitude toward school and perhaps a trade or apprenticeship or first time job, and for others still, **SUCCESS** will mean an escape from generational poverty, increased sense of belonging to their neighbourhood and wider community and increased community volunteerism.

We believe so strongly in the **SUCCESS** of our young people, we’ve placed it as the first and foremost goal of **EVERY DECISION WE MAKE**.



Becky Parent, Executive Director

Statistically Speaking

PROGRAM NAME	# of Volunteers	# of Young People Mentored
Big Sisters	64	64
Big Brothers	42	42
In-School Mentoring	180	180
Go Girls!	20	298
Game On!	8	98
Group Mentoring	12	75



Unlocking a child’s true potential creates a future where **anything’s possible**

Start Something

Staff Compliment

Executive Director
Becky Parent

Director of Programs
Rose Culmone

Community Based Mentoring Coordinators:

Laura Brown
Katie Shepherd
Linda Souigny
Dhai Omar

Enrollment/Group Worker
Jasmine Taylor

In-School Mentoring Coordinators

Kellie Abbott
Nicole Seguin
Chelsie Lefaive
Lauren Michaelis

Office Manager
Barbara Browning

Bookkeeper
Deb Gray-Libby

Director of Development and Donor Relations

Kieran McKenzie

Fund Development Coordinator

Vicki Hedge

Students University of Windsor

2017-2018

Lena Limoges (BSW Program)
Kalie Dunlop (BSW Program)

2018-2019

Alexis Piccolo (BSW Program)
Darci MacDonald (BSW Program)

Students St. Clair College

2017 – 2018

Alexis O’Connor (CYC Program)
Amber Klie (CYC Program)
Daniel Chaulk (CYC Program)
Devon Reeb (CYC Program)
Julia Tudorica (CYC Program)
Lauren Michaelis (CYC Program)
Megan Burton (CYC Program)
Megan Stockwell (CYC Program)
Sophie Lees (CYC Program)
Tabatha Nolan (CYC Program)
Taylor Druer (CYC Program)
Unique Blair-Downes (CYC Program)

2017 – 2018

Brittany Marentette (CYC Program)
Nicole Fox (CYC Program)
Kaitlyn Gatto (CYC Program)
Brendan Renaud (CYC Program)
Abby Monforton (CYC Program)
Brittany Durham (CYC Program)
Calib Johnston (CYC Program)
Dakota Stevenson (CYC Program)
Emily Ackle (CYC Program)
Jade Powers (CYC Program)
Kaitlyn Hurst (CYC Program)
Madison Cartier (CYC Program)
Madison Ducharme (CYC Program)
William Waddell (CYC Program)