



**Big Brothers Big Sisters**  
OF VICTORIA CAPITAL REGION

# ANNUAL REPORT

Potential is Everywhere

2021-2022





# LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

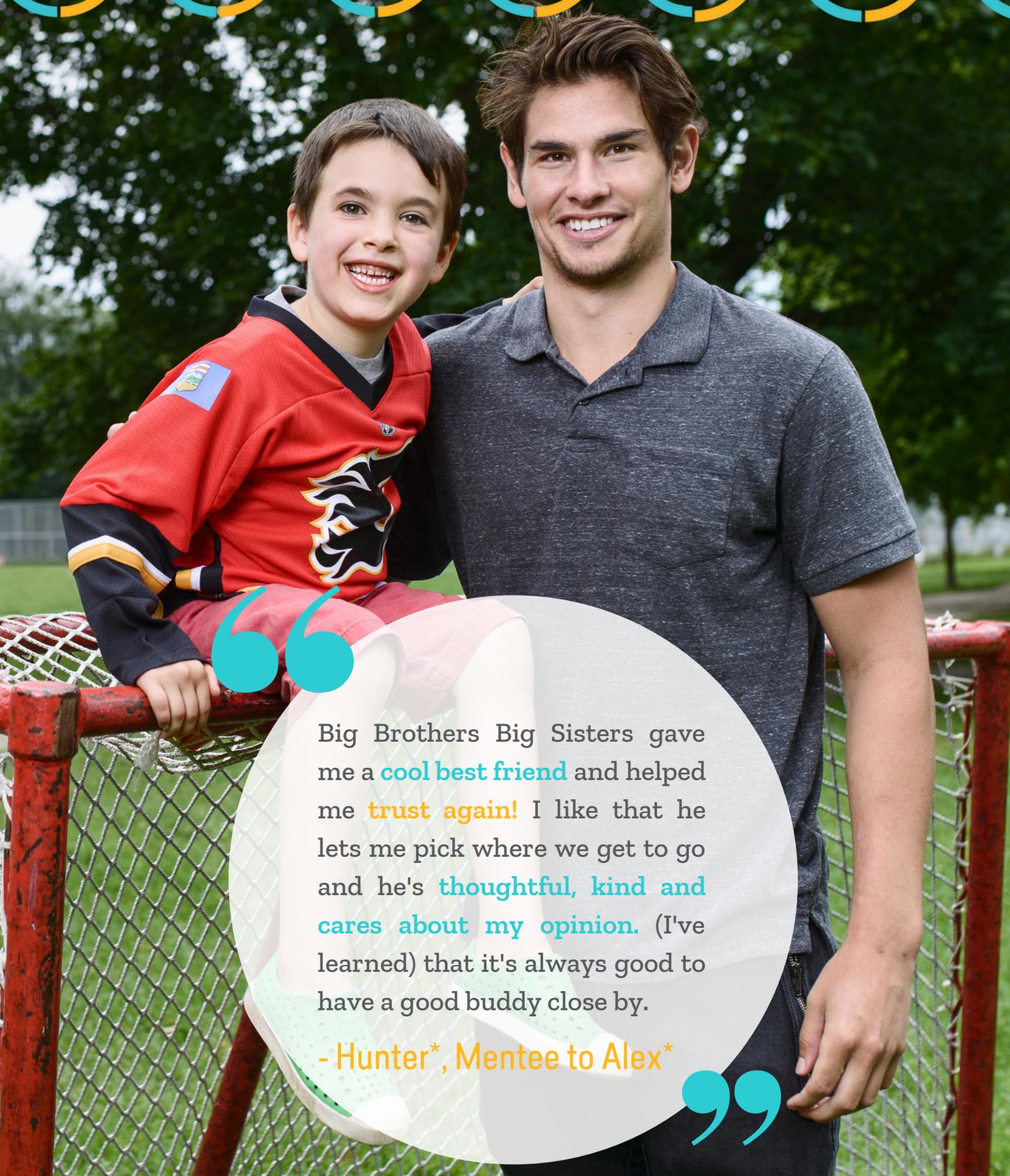
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Victoria Capital Region (BBBSV) recognizes and respects the lands of the Ləkʷəŋən (Esquimalt and Songhees), Pacheedaht, Scia'new, T'Sou-ke, WSÁNEĆ (Malahat, Pauquachin, Tsartlip, Tsawout, Tseycum), K'ómoks, Hul'qumi'num and SENĆOTEN peoples, where we live, work, volunteer and play.

# DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

BBBSV is committed to sustaining an environment where representation matters, diversity is celebrated and people of every race, religion, culture, gender and sexual orientation are welcomed. At BBBSV, we acknowledge and honour the diversity of people, cultures, traditions and experiences, and we recognize and uphold the right of all individuals to respect, dignity, fairness, caring, equality, self-esteem and inclusion.

# REPORTING & PRIVACY

The privacy of our youth, participants and families is paramount. All quotes and data in this report come directly from BBBSV's intake and program files, surveys and participants. Names, identifying details and images have been changed, when applicable, to protect the privacy of our program participants. Sources are referenced throughout for transparent reporting.



Big Brothers Big Sisters gave me a **cool best friend** and helped me **trust again!** I like that he lets me pick where we get to go and he's **thoughtful, kind and cares about my opinion.** (I've learned) that it's always good to have a good buddy close by.

- Hunter\*, Mentee to Alex\*

# WITH OUR GRATITUDE

As we reflect on the 2021-2022 year, we must acknowledge our deepest gratitude for each and every one of our **volunteers, staff members, sponsors, donors, board members and supporters** who commit themselves to making a difference for young people in our community.



265 volunteer mentors



489 youth served



\$116,020 fundraised

Every donation, every hour spent volunteering and every show of support comes together to have a big impact. We truly are **bigger together**, and we are so grateful for your ongoing support as we continue to **learn and grow**. We are **changing lives**, one relationship at a time, and we couldn't do it without your support, dedication and contribution. **From all of us at BBBSV, thank you for everything that you do!**



**Big Brothers Big Sisters**  
OF VICTORIA CAPITAL REGION

# CELEBRATING 45 YEARS

of Support & Care  
for our Community

1977-2022



# OUR VISION & MISSION

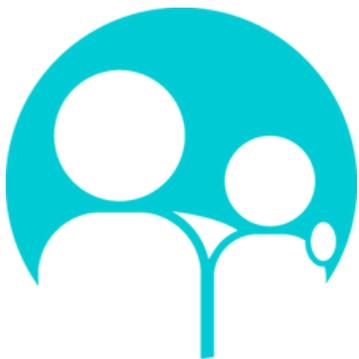
Since 1977, BBBSV has been committed to the **wellbeing and development** of our community's **most vulnerable youth**.



Our **vision** is that all young people realize their full **potential**. By no fault of their own, many youth are dealing with **adversities and challenges** which threaten their confidence and limit their opportunities.



Our **mission** is to **enable life-changing mentoring relationships** to ignite the power and potential of **children and youth**. Developmental relationships are proven to reduce the impact of adversities and support youth to grow and **thrive**.



When we match a young person with a trusted adult mentor, we **start something incredible** - a life-changing relationship with the **needs of the child** at its core.





'You'll be surprised and moved once you realize how much **impact** a mentor's words, kindness, strength and silence can achieve.

- Laura\*, Mentor to Jayda\*



# THE NEED FOR MENTORING

Over the past year, BBBSV has continued to experience **increased demand** for mentoring services from children and youth in our community.

Of the **362 children and youth** matched with our volunteer mentors over the past year:



78%

have struggled with mental health challenges and mental illnesses

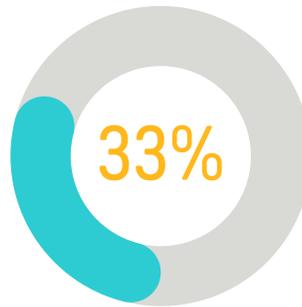


67%

have experienced challenges in their literacy or learning



have had difficulties with their peers



have experienced conflict or violence at home, at school or in the community



have been bullied or have bullied others



489

children and youth were served through our mentoring programs



362

children and youth were matched with volunteer mentors



127

young people on the waitlist received safety training and referrals



Few things in life are harder to watch than a **child who is struggling** through a situation. As a parent, you remember everybody who was there to help, and **Big Brothers Big Sisters was there**. I saw the **healing** in my son with each visit with his mentor as (their) relationship has taken on a life of its own and lasted many years. My son can now take this understanding **forward in his life** and build other amazing relationships. **What a gift!**

**Thank you Big Brothers Big Sisters** for being there.

**- Gary\*, Proud Parent to Mentee Chase\***



# MESSAGE FROM BOARD PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"Change has never been more prevalent than it is now - however, through these rapidly changing times, **some things do not change**. Children continue to thrive in mentoring relationships and our volunteers and staff work relentlessly to carry out our vision and mission to **enable life-changing relationships** that ignite the power and potential of young people.

The Social Enterprise continued to deliver innovative services to help fund our mentoring programs. Together with our donors, we successfully diverted **700 metric tonnes** of clothing and goods away from landfills. The success of this organization is due to the hardworking staff, the donors, our community partner Value Village and, of course, our customers who are committed to buying goods in a sustainable way.

This was the third successful year of our **Move for Mentoring fundraiser** - a virtual fundraising event where participants collected pledges and challenged themselves each week to move their bodies and build healthier habits. Local businesses also stepped up and provided fitness classes and prizes each week for participants.

We currently have over 127 youth on our waitlist and we remain driven by our vision that all young people realize their full potential. Given the unprecedented number of children in need in our communities, **BBBSV** has set a goal to build the organization to **serve 1000 children and youth by 2025**. During the year, we built a new Strategic Plan which builds on the strong foundation of programs and services that are in place today. Work began on this ambitious goal during the year by expanding the staff team towards a larger organization able to serve 1000 children.

**Thank you to our volunteers, donors, sponsors, staff and Board of Directors.** It truly takes a village, and your actions inspire us every day to come back and give more. We are excited for the future, and we thank each and every one of you for your commitment in helping us to strengthen our community one relationship at a time."



- Donna Hobbs,  
Board President  
&  
Rhonda Brown,  
Executive Director



# 2021-2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Donna Hobbs, **President**

Meghan Casault, **Vice-President**

Karen Mark, **Secretary**

Agnes Piotrowski, **Treasurer**

Steve Chubby, **Director**

Kaylee Apostoliuk, **Director**

Curtis Clarke, **Director**

Scott Treble, **Director**

Silvia Vajushi, **Director**

Mike Wyeth, **Past President**

## OVER 15 YEARS OF SUPPORT

"Mike Wyeth has been a dedicated Board member for the past eight years. His leadership as our Board President **successfully navigated** BBBSV through the many challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. He has been a dedicated mentor for over 15 years and we are so thankful for his service! Mike will be missed as a Board member but we know he won't be far and that we can always count on him to help us and, in turn, the children and families that we serve. Thank you Mike, we are **forever grateful** for your dedication." - Donna Hobbs, Board President

"Being on the Board for BBBSV has been a wonderful experience. Seeing all the Board members **work together** to make sure that the mentoring programs succeed and grow is very heart warming. During my time on the Board we have seen good times and stressful ones. The COVID pandemic made it very hard to keep providing mentoring at the very time when the children **needed it the most**. Despite the limitations forced on us by the pandemic, our programs mainly continued and we could still help the children and youth. Having been a mentor, I know what a great **impact mentoring can have in the life of a young person** and it is wonderful to see the programs growing again. The Board always rallied around the needs of the youth with **dedication** to the work. Thank you for the opportunity to be involved."



- Mike Wyeth, Past President, Board Member for 8 Years and Mentor to Nick

# 2021-2022 STAFF TEAM

Rhonda Brown, **Executive Director**  
Andrew M. Reed, **Operations Manager**  
Lilaine Galway, **Program Manager**  
Emma Kirkland, **Director of Development**  
Jenny Felix, **Manager of Finance**  
Ashley Adams, **Lead Community Mentoring Coordinator**  
Adrianna Kipp, **BS2S Mentoring Coordinator**  
Alexis Gardner, **Community Mentoring Coordinator**  
Kira Szczawinski, **Community Mentoring Coordinator**  
Alysha Vivian, **Community Mentoring Coordinator**  
Sage Togyi, **B You! Program Practicum Student**  
Kylea Smith, **B You! Program Practicum Student**  
Abbey Haas, **B You! Program Practicum Student**  
Andrea DeJager, **B You! Program Practicum Student**  
Allie McFarlane, **Marketing & Communications Specialist**  
Raeleigh Aberg, **Event & Marketing Coordinator**  
Mary MacLeod-Beaver, **In-School Mentoring Coordinator**  
Brooke MacDonald, **Salt Spring Island Mentoring Coordinator**  
Candace Johnson, **Comox Mentoring Coordinator**  
Kelly Houlahan, **In-School Mentoring Coordinator**  
Kait Biurns, **B You! Program Coordinator**  
Talia Papa, **Volunteer Intake Coordinator**

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Aman Saggi, **Volunteer Intake Coordinator**  
Ezra Loggin, **Collections Lead**  
Kate Dickinson, **Assistant Manager of Operations**  
Russ Allert, **Collections Coordinator**  
Lynda Weller, **Collections Coordinator**  
Keltan Roth, **Collections Coordinator**  
Johnny Pranic, **Online Marketplace Coordinator**  
Eden Thom, **Online Marketplace Coordinator**  
Jasmine Crant, **Auction Lead**  
Darcy Lapushinsky, **Auction Coordinator**  
Thanh Nguyen, **Collections Coordinator**  
Yale Pakosh, **Collections Coordinator**  
Emily Stanhop, **Co-op Student**  
Kiera Ariano, **Co-op Student**  
Matt Collicott, **Co-op Student**  
Ashlyn Day, **Co-op Student**  
Natasha Wood, **Co-op Student**  
Aaron Gagnon, **Co-op Student**  
Evan Griffin, **Co-op Student**  
Zak Klassen, **Co-op Student**  
Lucas Darke, **Co-op Student**  
Andrew Shen, **Co-op Student**



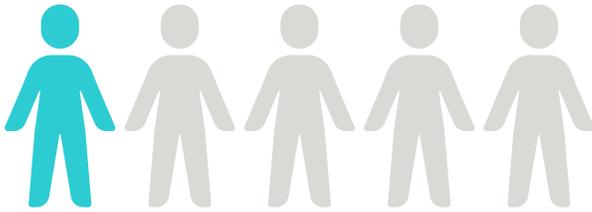
"I've learned more here in the past four months than I ever have before and am excited to be taking so much **knowledge** with me. Thank you (to Andrew) for being a **great mentor** and providing me with so much support!"

- Emily Stanhope, BIG Island Treasures Co-op Student



# OUR THEORY OF CHANGE

We believe that children and youth facing adversity - those young people in need of additional **supportive and consistent relationships** in their lives, who are open to mentoring and can be safely matched - will benefit from being matched with a mentor who provides them with a developmental relationship which helps them grow up to be **healthy, caring and responsible adults**.



1 in 5

children and youth have **no** developmental relationships in their lives

Young people are more likely to **grow up successfully** when they experience developmental relationships with important people in their lives. Developmental relationships are **close connections** through which young people discover who they are, cultivate abilities to shape their own lives, and learn how to engage with and contribute to the world around them.

In developmental mentoring relationships with youth, our volunteer mentors:



**EXPRESS CARE:** Show the young person that they matter



**CHALLENGE GROWTH:** Encourage the child or youth to keep getting better



**PROVIDE SUPPORT:** Help the child to complete tasks and achieve goals



**SHARE POWER:** Treat the young person with respect and give them a say



**EXPAND POSSIBILITIES:** Connect the child or youth with ideas that broaden their world

Our **expertly screened and trained volunteers** build developmental mentoring relationships with youth - supporting them through challenges, acting as their champions and exposing them to new experiences. Community-based mentoring offers **additional support and developmental assets** to mitigate future challenges in school, at home and in the community. Children and youth who experience more of the developmental assets engage in fewer risk-taking behaviors and are **more likely to thrive**.

# IN THE NEWS: CAPITAL DAILY ARTICLE MARCH 2022

## They're unrelated and 50 years apart, but these brothers are celebrating 17 years of a 'life-changing' relationship

About once a week for the past 17 years, Mike Wyeth and Nick Wesley have had standing plans. In spite of their 50-year age difference, Wyeth, 76, says he still manages to keep up when facing off with the 26-year-old Wesley in regular tennis matches. Early on, Wyeth trained Wesley in the sport; these days, Wyeth says, "he can blast me off the court."

Over the years, they've been practically inseparable—walking with Wyeth's dogs, fishing, attending Pacific FC matches, watching hockey, or taking a sailing tour from the Inner Harbour. Wesley, who was nine when they first met, says he doesn't really remember a time when Wyeth wasn't in his life. "He's always just been there as long as I can remember," Wesley said. "We've always had a blast hanging out."

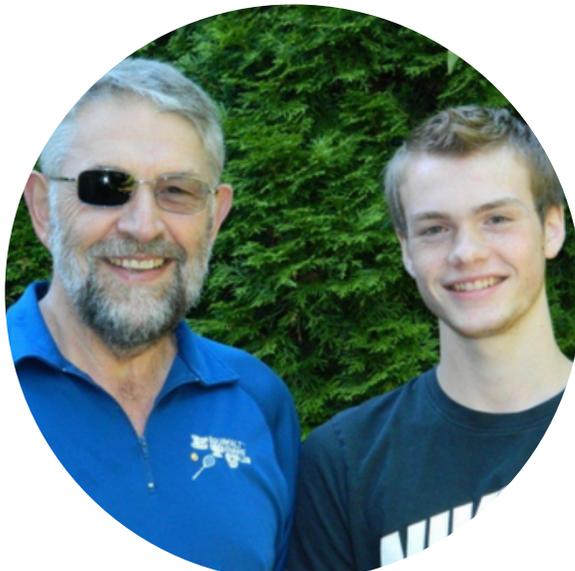
"It always felt like he has been there, as a part of the family," he said. "My mom, my family, me, we all consider him to be like that."

The two were matched through Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Victoria Capital Region in 2005. While most matches stay active through the organization for an average of three years, the relationships made between mentor and mentee often endure long after. Some, like Wesley and Wyeth, choose to keep up their regular meetups even after the program ends when the mentee turns 18.

No matter where they've been in their lives over the past decade and a half, Wesley says that Wyeth has always made a point to make time for him. The older man attended his high school graduation, and is careful to remember the anniversary of the day they met.

Although he's currently busy with his career, Wesley says that in the future he's considering the possibility of being a big brother to someone else—to give back and help shape another kid's life for the better. Regardless, he expressed a deep gratitude for everything the Big Brothers Big Sisters program has done for him.

"It put me in a position to feel like a more empowered individual," he said. "It's life changing in a sense, for the better."



Scan here  
to read  
the full  
article!



# 2021-2022 PROGRAM OVERVIEW

"The last year flew by. Our staff worked hard to support our program participants despite lingering COVID-19 restrictions. We met **wonderful children, parents/guardians and mentors**. 147 of those mentors were trained in building Developmental Relationships; 64 parents/guardians attended a family orientation session, and 278 children completed safety training. We also said farewell to coordinators Alexia Gilbertson-Burnett, Kelly Houlahan and Kira Szczawinski and hello to Mary MacLeod-Beaver and Talia Papa. The In-School Mentoring Coordinators **navigated constantly changing COVID-19 protocols** at 11 elementary and five secondary schools to match students together with mentors; and Ashley Adams and her team supported more mentoring matches than ever before in the community mentoring program! We are proud of what we accomplished this year. - **Lilaine Galway, Manager of Programs**



**BIG STEPS**  
**2 SUCCESS**



**Big Brothers Big Sisters**  
OF VICTORIA CAPITAL REGION

In partnership  
with:



**CHILDREN'S  
AID FOUNDATION**  
OF CANADA

In February 2022, we launched our newest program: Big Steps 2 Success. This program is specifically designed for children and youth who are **involved with the child welfare system** or living in care. Mentors receive additional training in the specific needs of young people in care.



“

Spending time, **sharing stories** or even hearing advice can make a **change to someone's life**, and then make a difference in the future. I chose to be a Big Sister to **have fun**, to share a part of me and also to **learn and grow** from it. Every time with my Little Sister is just bliss.

- **Leanne\***, Mentor to **Aya\***

”

”

# COMMUNITY MENTORING PROGRAM

## 181 YOUTH SERVED

At the core of our services for youth, our Community Mentoring Program matches young people with mentors who share their interests and spend time with them in the community. This year, 181 children and youth were supported through the Community Mentoring Program across the Victoria Capital Region.

## MENTORING MATTERS



### 72%

of mentors inspired their mentee to see future possibilities for themselves



### 86%

of families felt that their child became motivated to learn and try new things



### 94%

of our mentees experienced their mentor sharing power with them

## 151 MENTORS TRAINED

This year, matches spent more time together face-to-face and enjoying activities in the community — their relationships having survived months of Zoom meetings during the pandemic. Mentoring Coordinators completed over 1800 match monitoring check-ins with mentees, mentors and parents/guardians throughout the year — ensuring the safety and success of each match.

## BIG THANK YOU TO



VICTORIA FOUNDATION



BRITISH COLUMBIA



CITY OF VICTORIA



United Way Southern Vancouver Island



coastcapital SAVINGS

Langford where it all happens.

Scotiabank



Unifor Social Justice Fund

Unifor Fonds de justice sociale



Township of ESQUIMALT



ROGERS



CENTRAL WALK

MAYFAIR



Big Brothers Big Sisters OF VICTORIA CAPITAL REGION

Potential is Everywhere

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"It has truly been an honour to work as a Mentoring Coordinator in the Community Program and Big Steps 2 Success. To play a small role in the **meaningful relationships** built by matches, and to hear firsthand the impact the program has on the volunteer, child and family is so **fulfilling**. While each match is unique in who they are and what they do together, there is a common thread of **care and resilience** through each."

- Adrianna Kipp, BS2S Mentoring Coordinator



"Being a Mentoring Coordinator for BBBSV has been an incredibly rewarding experience! One of the main things I appreciate about the Community Mentoring Program is that it offers a **unique one-on-one environment** for mentors and mentees to develop a **special intergenerational friendship**. The best part about my job is hearing all of the positive stories from matches about the growth, development and healing that has come out of their match! It feels great knowing that we are able to provide a safe program that helps foster social connectedness, **encourages youth empowerment** and builds lifelong community connections."

- Alexis Gardner, Community Mentoring Coordinator

"I am honored to be a part of BBBSV and on the Community Mentoring team! As a Community Mentoring Coordinator, it is **very rewarding** to support a diverse group of families and volunteers in the community and watch **long-lasting friendships flourish**. I love hearing the positive feedback and stories from our clients, volunteers, and families who are so grateful for our programs. BBBSV is an inclusive environment that fosters **positive community connections and youth empowerment**. I am very happy to be a part of BBBSV and look forward on continuing to serve this beautiful community."

- Alysha Vivian, Community Mentoring Coordinator



“

I feel connected to Jaxon\* because of the **memories we share**. I've loved getting to give Jaxon\* the opportunity to try things for the first time like riding a bike or trying salmon berries. When I'm in Jaxon's\* world, I feel really **connected to him** and am privileged to be part of his imagination.

- David\*, Mentor to Jaxon\*

”

# IN-SCHOOL MENTORING PROGRAMS

## 70 YOUTH SERVED IN VICTORIA AREA

Our In-School Mentoring Programs match elementary school students with teen or adult mentors who spend time with them at school once per week. This year, 100% of our partner schools agreed that mentoring was a valuable experience for their students who participated in In-School Mentoring Programs across the Victoria Capital Region, Sooke, Comox and Salt Spring Island.



I am happy to report that in Comox we were allowed to meet in-person beginning in September 2021 and we had 14 successful In-School matches during the school year. I also added **two new schools** to the program so am looking forward to the In-School Mentoring program continuing to blossom and grow in the Comox Valley.

- Candace Johnson,  
Comox Mentoring Coordinator

## IN-SCHOOL MENTORS HAVE A BIG IMPACT



59%

of parents felt that their child's attitudes towards school had improved



73%

of mentees were better able to treat others with respect



86%

of mentors saw their mentee's trust grow



## BIG THANK YOU TO



A DIVISION OF FIRST WEST CREDIT UNION



Comox Valley Schools



# Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds

In 2022, BBBSV implemented a name change to one of our programs: Go Girls! is now B You: Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds. Our participants themselves requested a name change for the program. Our new name better reflects our program goals and the group's inclusivity.

"As a past volunteer in B You: Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds, it really **feels full-circle** to now be coordinating the program myself. Although the transition back into schools was not without challenge, it has been beyond fulfilling to again see the **impact our program makes** when we offer it face-to-face. With both the in-person and continuing online options, we are creating a **safe space** for youth to come together, to be **vulnerable** with each other and to create new connections. The feedback from our clients, families, and schools has been **overwhelmingly positive** and you can really see the impact reflected in our numbers."

- Kait Burns, B You: Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds Coordinator



141 FEMALE-  
IDENTIFYING &  
GENDER-DIVERSE  
YOUTH SERVED

In the 2021-2022 school year, the pandemic-related uncertainty continued, and online remained our only form of program delivery for the Fall and Winter sessions of B You: Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds. The curriculum included discussion, games, crafts and journaling centered on topics introduced by the participants or the facilitators. These topics included self-care, LGBTQIA2S+ culture, mental health, and friendships. As the public adapted to pandemic conditions and restrictions were lifted, the agency was once again able to deliver B You: Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds in local schools around Greater Victoria in the Spring.



"I love (this program) so much! Great place for talking to people that are open and nice - a **complete safe space**. (My favourite part was) the group discussions because **I feel like my voice matters** and that I matter. I **feel like I belong**, and it really helps with my **mental health**."

- Safiya\*, B You: Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds Participant



# BIG THANK YOU TO



ARITZIA



Jumpstart  
Bon départ



As a result of re-implementing B You: Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds in person, enrolment in the program doubled in the Spring compared to enrolment from Fall and Winter sessions combined. Successfully running B You: Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds both in person and online allowed the agency to serve a larger population of local youth while still extending the reach of the program to serve youth in more rural communities - with one participant calling in from as far as Ontario.



91%

of participants struggle with at least one adversity

75% face two or more intersectional and complex adversities

THE NEED FOR GROUP  
MENTORING:  
ADVERSITIES

THE IMPACT OF  
B YOU:  
HEALTHY BODIES,  
HEALTHY MINDS



76%

of participants feel more comfortable talking about their mental health



81%

of participants are more confident in asking for help when they need it



94%

of participants learned new ways to care for their bodies and minds



# 2021-2022 PARTNER SCHOOLS

## IN-SCHOOL MENTORING PROGRAMS

### Victoria Capital Region & Sooke

Marigold Elementary School      Brentwood Bay Elementary School  
Quadra Elementary School      Campus View Elementary School  
Spectrum Community School      Craigflower Elementary School  
Saseenos Elementary School      George Jay Elementary School  
Edward Milne Community School

### Salt Spring Island

Salt Spring Elementary School      Gulf Islands Secondary School

### Comox

Queneesh Elementary School      Brooklyn Elementary School  
Valley View Elementary School      Mark R. Isfeld Secondary School  
Highland Secondary School

## BY YOU: HEALTHY BODIES, HEALTHY MINDS

### Victoria Capital Region

Cedar Hill Middle School      Gordon Head Middle School

### Sooke

Spencer Middle School      John Stubbs Memorial/Ecole John Stubbs





"I am grateful to all of our annual, major and planned giving **donors** who support us **year after year**. I would also like to thank our community partners, sponsors and businesses that **engage with us**. You are making a difference for children and youth in our community when **they need you the most**. You are the reason we are able to provide support to local young people, and **our entire community thanks you.**"



- Emma Kirkland,  
Director of  
Development

# BIG THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

When you give to BBBSV, you are directly investing in the future happiness and health of our local communities. Thank you for your generous support in the 2021-2022 year!

**Blenkin-Higgins Foundation**

**Victoria Foundation**

**Andrew Beckerman**

**100 Women West Shore**

**Sheila Elworthy**

# FUNDRAISING & EVENTS

## EASTER BASKETS FOR UKRAINE

In April, we ran a fundraiser for families displaced by the devastating effects of the war in Ukraine. We raised \$538 to support immediate needs for families. Thank you to everyone who purchased an Easter basket!



## MOVE FOR MENTORING: OVER \$55,000 RAISED FOR YOUTH

Our fitness-focused fundraiser, Move for Mentoring, encouraged participants to get moving while making a difference for local youth mentoring programs. Thank you to everyone who supported and helped us raise over \$55,000!

## BIG THANK YOU TO



MAYFAIR



“

These are extraordinary times we are living in. This program provided my daughter with a **safe & supportive environment** to be herself and to be vulnerable. This program also allowed her to just let go and be in the moment - **connecting, creating, laughing!** Once a week the opportunity to adventure outside her regular friend group in this crazy world was **very special**. Thank you!

- Meagan\*, Proud Parent of Emily\*,  
B You: Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds Participant

”



# SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

Our Social Enterprise, **BIG Island Treasures**, generates revenue for the BBBSV charity — **100% of revenues support mentoring services**. Revenues are generated through the collection of gently used clothing, household items, small furniture, art, and collectibles. These donations are resold to our corporate partner, Value Village. The net-earned revenue is used to support critical mentoring programs for children and youth in the the Victoria Capital Region, Sooke, Comox and Salt Spring Island. We are so thankful to the **thousands of individuals** in our community who donate goods, come out to events and support BIG Island Treasures throughout the year.



**\$112,254 revenue to support mentoring programs**



**1.4 million tonnes of cloth and goods kept out of landfills**



**13% growth in revenue over previous year**

Despite continued impacts from the COVID-19 global pandemic, a tightening labour market, and **skyrocketing costs** of supplies and fuel, the **dedicated BIG Island Treasures team**, made up of staff, co-op student interns and volunteers, focused and responded to challenges with a dynamic and flexible mindset that allowed for **continued and significant growth despite all obstacles**.

Through developing and implementing creative strategies, BIG Island Treasures developed **multiple revenue streams** in order to offset a significant decline in Value Village demand and an unprecedented increase in operations expenses. Revenues **grew by 13%** over the prior fiscal year.

On top of remaining profitable, **over 700 metric tonnes or 1.4 million tonnes of cloth and other reusable goods** were kept out of the landfill, while at the same time helping to provide jobs in the local community, develop internships for local college and university students, and protect our environment as much as possible for future generations.



# BIG

ISLAND  
TREASURES

# JK

BIG THANK YOU TO



MAYFAIR



# MESSAGE FROM TREASURER

"The economic impact of the pandemic resulted in significant uncertainty and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Victoria Capital Region proved its resiliency and dedication with financial prudence, innovation, and a dedicated team that led to brilliant achievements. In this challenging fiscal environment, BBBSV ended the fiscal year with a deficiency of revenue over expenses of \$11,685. This deficiency was due primarily from significant decreases in the government's COVID assistance programs, and the challenging market for retaining and attracting resources.

Revenue in 2022 increased by 6% over prior year at \$1,385,752 (excluding Federal government COVID-related assistance). The increase was due primarily from a successful year for the Social Enterprise as well as grants and subsidies. Social Enterprise revenues increased by 13% as a result of new revenue streams and strong community partnerships.

We continued to be successful in aligning with funders and demonstrating the impact of our services on vulnerable youth and as a result, Grants and subsidies increased by 10% for a total of \$469,320. We received \$25,137 from the Federal government COVID-19 support programs (a decrease of 87% from prior year \$193,966). Overall expenses increased by 17% to \$1,422,574 as the organization experienced increased building occupancy costs, truck operating and rental costs, and wages in response to a growing organization and impacts of inflation. In 2021, the Board created a Vision 1000 reserve fund of \$280,000 to be used over three-years (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024) to fund initiatives to grow the organization to serve 1000 young people. In the current year, \$22,413 was expended on Vision 1000 initiatives.

These numbers represent stories of life-changing relationships that inspire and empower youth through a range of amazing programs and unique events.

This report is a testament to the impact on the community and the talented team and volunteers at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Victoria Capital Region whose efforts advance the Vision."

- Agnes Piotrowski, Treasurer



 **Big Brothers Big Sisters**  
OF VICTORIA CAPITAL REGION

[Victoria.BigBrothersBigSisters.ca](http://Victoria.BigBrothersBigSisters.ca)



[@bbbsvictoria](https://www.instagram.com/bbbsvictoria)