



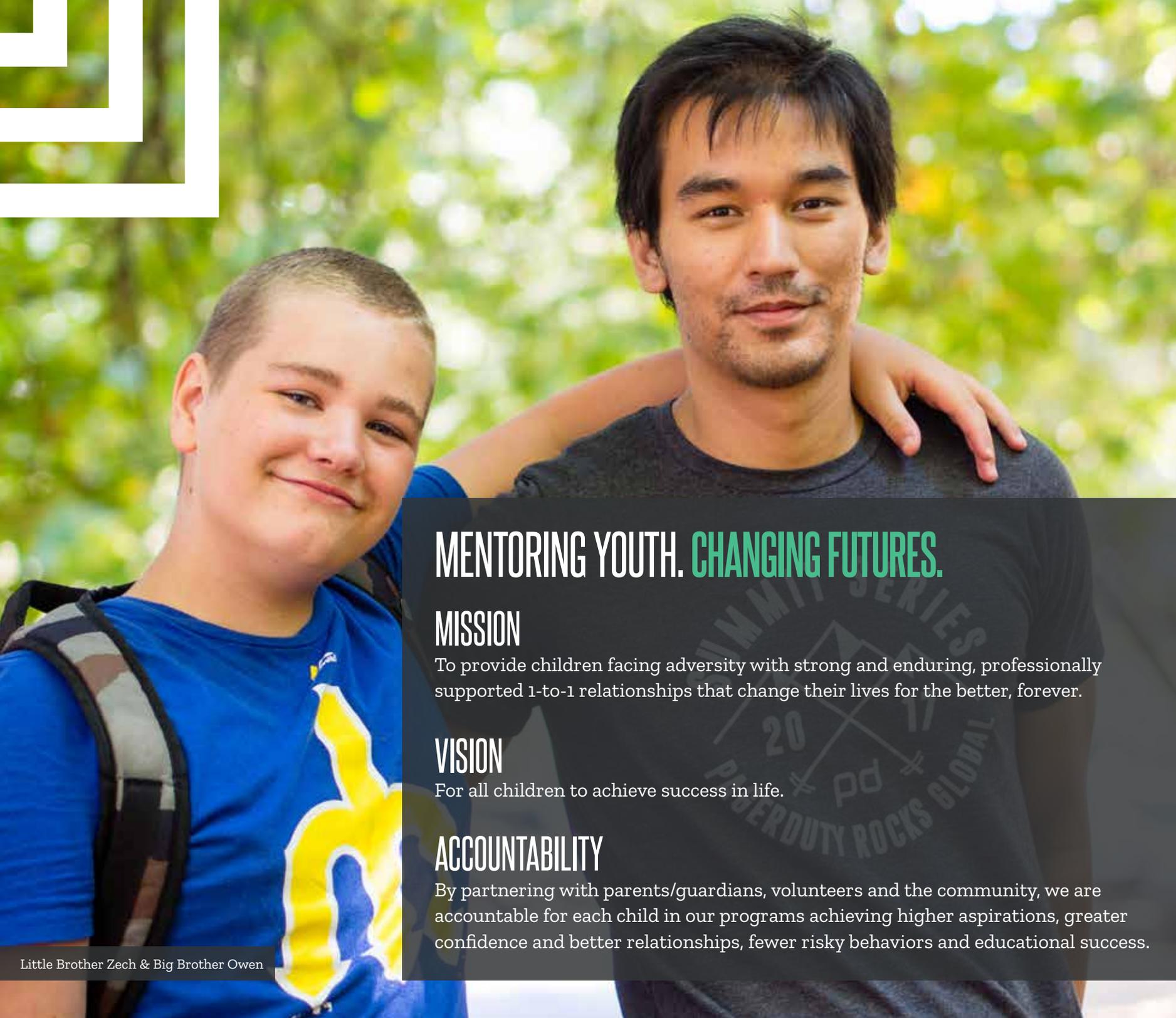
COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT 2017



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters®**

PUGET SOUND

Little Sister Demajuniqué and Big Sister Zulna



MENTORING YOUTH. CHANGING FUTURES.

MISSION

To provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported 1-to-1 relationships that change their lives for the better, forever.

VISION

For all children to achieve success in life.

ACCOUNTABILITY

By partnering with parents/guardians, volunteers and the community, we are accountable for each child in our programs achieving higher aspirations, greater confidence and better relationships, fewer risky behaviors and educational success.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Together, we are inspiring so many kids to dream BIG and build their paths to future success. With your support in 2017, we impacted almost 1,200 kids and their families through the power of 1-to-1 mentoring.

Studies show that one of the most important factors in breaking out of destructive cycles and compounded inequities is having a trusted adult to guide and nudge a child toward achieving personal, professional, and educational success.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound is building on more than 60 years of partnerships with schools, communities, businesses, supporters, and families to impact more kids each year. We must continue to grow to meet the demand of our precious and ever-changing community.

One way we are meeting a clear demand is through MentorU: our innovative, technology-enhanced program designed to connect mentors with high school students using our career- and college-readiness curriculum.

This program has not only sparked tremendous growth for our organization, it is reaching students with specific goals and outcomes so they can be ready for success after high school. With its clear focus on connecting young people to the jobs of the future, MentorU has also inspired a wide variety of new mentors and business partners to step forward and join our team.

Thanks to all of you – our supporters, champions, and partners – we had a second consecutive year of service growth and became the second-fastest growing large market in the country.

We are extremely grateful to stand boldly and share our passion with you in empowering more youth to achieve their best possible future. But there is still so much more work to be done, together. Our waitlist has grown to more than 800 kids – a sign that now, more than ever, caring families believe that a Big Brother or Big Sister can be one of the most valuable relationships in their kids' lives.

On behalf of the entire agency staff, the board of directors, and all of the children, families, and mentors who believe in us, THANK YOU. You are changing children's futures.

Gratefully,

Louis Garcia
President & CEO
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound



Little Sister Alina

UNLIMITED POTENTIAL

Many of our kids face overwhelming challenges that often derail their futures – ranging from homelessness to poverty or struggles in school. Despite having the odds stacked against them, youth in our programs are beating the odds in BIG ways.

OBSTACLES OUR YOUTH FACE

77%

have a parent or guardian who did not graduate from high school or earn their GED.

26%

have an immediate family member who struggles with substance use or addiction.

23%

have experienced homelessness in the past 5 years.

26%

have a loved one involved with the criminal justice system.

76%

live in a home without one or both parents.

80%

are from low-income households.

FUTURE SUCCESS INDICATORS

100%

of our seniors graduated from high school in 2017.

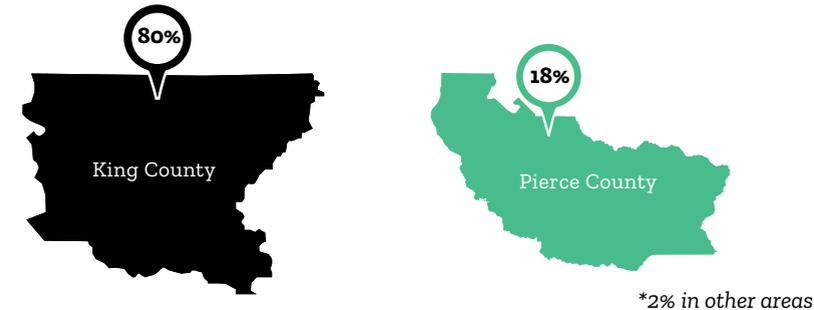
80%

have increased expectations for their future beyond high school.

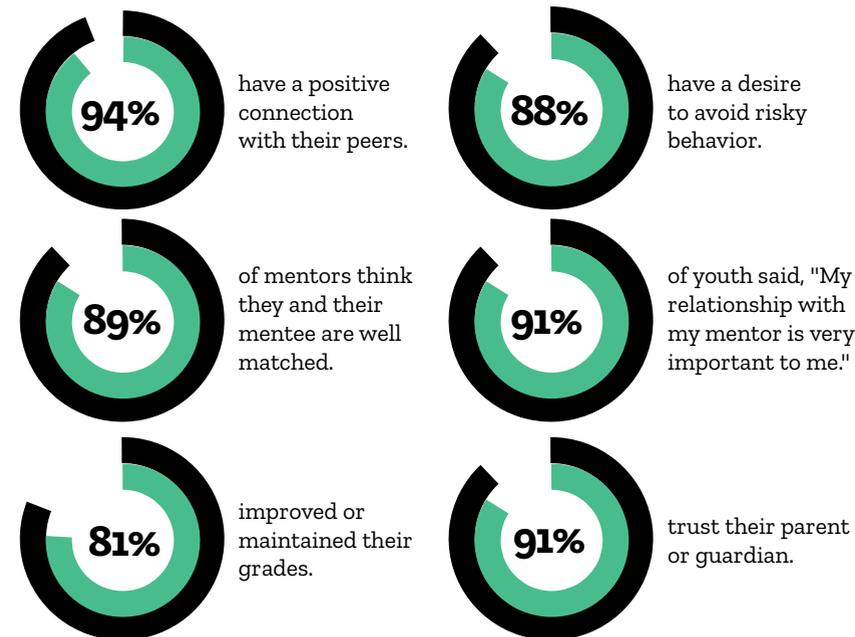
TOGETHER, WE CLEAR THE PATH FOR YOUTH TO THRIVE

Because of you, we served 1,166 children and families in 2017. As we continue to grow, together we will impact thousands of children who are eagerly waiting to be matched with a mentor.

WHERE WE SERVE:



MEASURABLE IMPACT



Little Brother Dan

THE POWER OF 1-TO-1 MENTORING

We serve youth in King, Pierce, and Kitsap counties through unique mentoring programs in communities, schools, and workplaces. With your help, we provide mentoring opportunities to help close the achievement and opportunity gaps that exist for many children.



IN THE COMMUNITY

Our traditional community-based 1-to-1 mentoring takes place in neighborhoods and communities. Each match gets together for four hours per month to have fun and build a trusting relationship to help navigate life's challenges.



IN SCHOOLS AND SITES

Our school-based programs partner with local elementary and middle schools to focus on kids identified by teachers as needing a mentor. Whether shooting hoops on the playground or helping with homework, mentors build a lasting friendship with kids that can help inspire them to reach their academic potential.



MENTORU

MentorU is a mix of guided classroom curriculum and technology-supported mentoring for high school students facing academic and personal challenges. With a focus on career readiness and college preparation, matches connect weekly via a secure online platform. Once a month, mentors and students meet in person for an educational activity.



IN THE WORKPLACE

Our Beyond School Walls program brings students to a local partner company and connects them with employee volunteers. Kids are introduced to the corporate world while companies cultivate a culture of service that has a lasting impact on the lives of both kids and mentors.



SPECIAL COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS

BLACK MALE EXCELLENCE

In partnership with the My Brother's Keeper Initiative and Seattle CARES, our Black Male Excellence program seeks to address the persistent opportunity gaps that affect boys and young men of color. Men of color serve as mentors, provide support, and help youth learn the skills to begin a career or go to college. Big Brothers Big Sisters provides training and support for mentors and offers services that are relevant for boys of color to succeed.



LGBTQ MENTORING

Big Brothers Big Sisters proudly welcomes members of LGBTQ communities to become volunteer mentors, sharing their time and experiences with our children and youth. We are also happy to provide mentors for LGBTQ families and LGBTQ youth.



JUNTOS

Meaning "together" in Spanish, Juntos is a new partnership between ReWA and Big Brothers Big Sisters. We pair unaccompanied immigrant minors with mentors who are from their culture and speak their language. Youth and their mentors have access to fun events and culturally relevant activities. Mentors add to students' support system while they are finishing school and acclimating to life in our community.



BROTHERS OF THE YEAR

BRYCE & ZACH

While serving as an Army Ranger, my dad was injured and became hooked on opioids. I was 7 when I met my Big Brother, Zach. My parents had just split up. I felt lonely, confused and angry. Most of all, I didn't trust people.

When I was 11, my dad overdosed. I did drugs to escape my pain. What destroyed my Dad is what I was using to cope. I didn't know where to turn. But everywhere I turned, there was Zach. He would drive around town, find me on the streets and take me to dinner. He wanted to help me feel normal.

When I hit rock bottom, Zach was there. He never judged. He said on the day he saw my very worst, he saw a spark that I wanted to change.

It wasn't easy. I am proud to say I was accepted into the Washington Youth Academy. With Zach's support, I received a coveted award – and my toughest drill sergeant recommended me for admission to The Citadel. Thanks, Big Brothers Big Sisters for giving me Zach. My life is forever changed.

– Little Brother Bryce

Little Brother Bryce & Big Brother Zach



SISTERS OF THE YEAR

SAHMARI & KAREN

The week after I retired, I signed up to be a Big. It was one of the best decisions I've ever made.

I've learned a lot from Sahmari about resilience, determination, and overcoming adversity. And it's caused me to reflect differently about the life I've led, the privileges I've had, and how I can and should show up in the world given that awareness.

The biggest change I've seen in the 3 years we've been together is how she's learned through swimming and more recently, gymnastics, that she can accomplish things that didn't seem possible – if she works at them, practices, and stays focused.

Instead of doing everything to please others, she is learning to think for herself and to be more self-confident, and to apply herself when taking on new challenges. This is true not just in the pool or gym, but also at school and in life.

– Big Sister Karen

Big Sister Karen & Little Sister Sahmari



SIGNATURE EVENTS

Every year, we host a variety of signature events to celebrate our special supporters and socialize in style. We pause to acknowledge how our generous donors and volunteers have had a positive impact on the community. Together, we are not only changing the lives of our kids and mentors, we're also deeply affecting our local schools, neighborhoods and the entire Puget Sound region. Without you, fulfilling our dream would be impossible.



BIG GALA

Our incredible sponsors, volunteers and donors generously contribute at our premier event in celebration of the work that we do together in the community. This annual gala generates crucial revenue that allows us to impact more children facing adversity and change their lives for the better, forever.

BIG BREAKFAST

The BIG Breakfast honors thousands of kids we impact through our programs and our Big Brother Big Sister and Community Partner of the Year. Our volunteer mentors and corporate supporters get together and celebrate the proven power of mentoring in our community.



BIG INVITATIONAL

The BIG Invitational Golf Tournament celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2017. Professionals from the commercial real estate industry come together to play a round for kids in our community. Networking for a good cause is par for the course!



MATCH GRADUATION

Every spring, we celebrate the talented high school graduates in our program. Proud mentors and families join for a special ceremony to acknowledge the hard work our youth have put in and look ahead to their bright futures.



SUMMER PICNIC

Our matches and their families get together in the sunshine for outdoor games, face painting, prize giveaways, and more. This is a popular activity that our matches look forward to every summer!



BIG FUTURES

We often partner with other organizations to provide educational, STEM, and arts opportunities for our matches. Adventures include the local zoo, symphony, aquarium, and more!



MENTOR ACADEMY

To develop strong mentors for youth, we provide critical training and coaching to our volunteers. Recent workshops explored youth development, relationship building, conflict resolution, and listening skills.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

It is important to us that we support and honor the individuals enrolled in our programs. Whether it's celebrating a milestone like graduation or getting our matches together for a fun picnic, we are always here to support our kids and mentors in their endeavors. Because of you, we are able to partner with local organizations to give our matches a variety of opportunities in the community and experiences to last a lifetime.

2017 FINANCIALS

SUMMARY OF REVENUES & EXPENSES

2017

TOTAL REVENUE	\$2,575,100
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,309,742
Programs	\$1,738,924
Fundraising	\$287,630
Management/General	\$283,188

NET ASSETS

2017

YEAR END NET ASSETS	\$3,336,186
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Big Sister Alexandra & Little Sister Alaska

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REI

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10th Muse Group

Terry Cook – Secretary
UBS Private Wealth Management

Cory Stewart – Treasurer
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Brett Alston
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Boeing

Joni Wickline
The Ken Blanchard Companies

*Term Ended

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Louis Garcia
President & CEO

Jean Ingebritsen
Chief Financial Officer

Jolynn Kenney
Vice President of Programs



HOW TO GET INVOLVED

1 BE A MENTOR OR HELP US FIND MENTORS

For just a few hours every month, you can give a child the invaluable gift of friendship. Learn more at InspireBIG.org.

Host a lunch & learn at your workplace. Big Brothers Big Sisters staff will give a presentation at your company so you and your coworkers can get involved together.

2 MAKE A FINANCIAL GIFT

Move kids off our waitlist and into a positive, professionally supported relationship with a mentor. To make a life-changing gift today, visit InspireBIG.org/donate.

3 DONATE CLOTHING AND HOUSE ITEMS

Change a life by simply cleaning out your closet. Find a big purple bin drop-off location near you or host a donation bin at your workplace.

Visit bigpurplebins.org to find out more.

WHY MENTORING

Research shows children who do well despite serious hardship have had **at least one stable and committed relationship with a supportive adult.**

These relationships buffer children from developmental disruption and help them develop resilience or the skills needed to respond to adversity and thrive.

– The Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University



DID YOU KNOW



Last year we collected 2.5 million pounds of donated goods through our big purple bins. Not only have our donation center bins served as a sustainable revenue stream for more than 22 years, they're also good for the environment.

The secondhand industry's environmental benefits range from fewer carbon emissions to saving water and reducing waste. It's a triple win for the kids, our community, and the environment!



Little Brother Elijah, Little Brother Malachi and Little Sister Tae

INSPIRING EMPOWERING IGNITING POTENTIAL

INSPIREBIG.ORG





 **Big Brothers Big Sisters.**
PUGET SOUND

Little Brother Asa & Big Brother Bernhard



SEATTLE

1600 S. Graham St.
Seattle, WA 98108
206.763.9060

TACOMA

3640 S. Cedar St. Suite R
Tacoma, WA 98409
253.292.2599

DONATION CENTER

598 Industry Dr.
Tukwila, WA 98188
206.248.5982

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