Keeping Kids Connected

2020 Annual Report
The cliché thing to say in this letter would be to remark on the “unprecedented” aspect of this entire year – the year of the pandemic, the year of the coronavirus, the year of COVID-19, the year of social isolation, the year of shutdowns and social distancing.

And it would all be true.

But, as many have experienced in life, the resilience and resourcefulness of the human spirit emerges most during challenging times. This is also true for all of us here at Big Brothers Big Sisters – perhaps now more than ever.

The trials of this past year have been consistently met with compassion and empathy from our volunteer mentors, dogged determination from our Board and funders, and focused work from our staff team. For that, we are all grateful and encouraged.

They say that necessity is the mother of invention – and that innovation grows from urgent inspiration. It would not be an exaggeration to suggest that no one person in our community hasn’t heard phrases like, “Can you hear me now?”, or “You have to unmute yourself”, or “Hang on, your internet is freezing up.” The advent of video communication has made our ability to connect both immediate and accessible, perhaps though for some more detached and impersonal.

For an organization that prioritizes authentic contact between people, the use of such ubiquitous technology such as Zoom or FaceTime symbolizes what we constantly strive to achieve for our volunteers, children, and families: making that important connection. While in-person, social distanced connection was possible for some during this year, the vast majority of our mentoring matches had to rely on technology to maintain this connection and cultivate relationships.

Towards that end, and as a way to advance our mission, our agency responded with a new partnership with our friends at Microsoft, where our matches will be able utilize the best assets and tools within the MS Teams platform.

Additionally, thanks to partners such as Dell-EMC, iRobot, Massachusetts Service Alliance, and Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), our Mentoring Youth in Science Technology Engineering Arts and Math (MYSTEAM) program was able to launch the new G.E.M. Program (Girls Esteem in STEAM Mentoring), an online mentoring program supporting middle school girls by matching them with women established in the STEM professions.

While many of us experienced countless meetings and virtual “events” during this pandemic, it is important to note that many of the children and families we serve have had limited access to these technologies and tools. The inequities and dearth of proper resources for so many in our network was highlighted and punctuated by this global health crisis. Fortunately, the outpouring of support for our DEFEND POTENTIAL FUND campaign helped us establish an emergency support program for our families in need, to provide financial support and emergency resources.

Spurred by our Strategic Plan published last year (and reinforced by the racial injustice our nation endured through many events highlighted this past year), our agency has engaged in a meaningful and significant Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion project for the duration of this fiscal year, whereby our entire staff, Board, and entire network of volunteers will participate in numerous trainings, forums, and activities to better equip our organization now and in the future.

We understand that children facing adversity are in great need of strong mentoring from reliable and positive role models. We are grateful for ALL of the wonderful support from those who give generously of their time, talent, and treasure, to help us ignite the potential within so many people in our communities. While much work remains to be done, we should be heartened by the resilience and ingenuity of our incredible network.

THANK YOU, we are so excited about what potential will be ignited this coming year because of YOU!

Warmest Regards,

Margaret Melo Sullivan
Chair, Board of Directors

Jeffrey K. Chin, MSW, LCSW
Chief Executive Officer

Margaret Melo Sullivan
Jeffrey K. Chin, MSW, LCSW
Chair, Board of Directors
Chief Executive Officer

Dear BBBS of Central Mass & Metrowest Friends and Supporters,

While many of us experienced countless meetings and virtual “events” during this pandemic, it is important to note that many of the children and families we serve have had limited access to these technologies and tools. The inequities and dearth of proper resources for so many in our network was highlighted and punctuated by this global health crisis. Fortunately, the outpouring of support for our DEFEND POTENTIAL FUND campaign helped us establish an emergency support program for our families in need, to provide financial support and emergency resources.

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Chair, Board of Directors

Jeffrey K. Chin, MSW, LCSW
Chief Executive Officer
Youth Served FY20

Total Youth Served: 850
Youth Served 1:1 Mentoring: 827
Site-Based: 513
Site-Based Plus: 106
Community: 208

56% Female | 44% Male
80% Free/Reduced Lunch
15% Have incarcerated parent or significant family member
3 Youth have a parent active in the military

Youth Outcomes

We survey children in our programs when they are initially enrolled, then at each year anniversary.

- Social Acceptance and Social Competence Improved or stayed the same: 85%
- Educational Expectations improved: 91%
- Grades & Academic Performance improved or stayed the same: 100%
- Very Important Adult in their life: 94%
- Parental Trust & Family Connectedness: 100%

Ethnicity

Living Situation
Our MISSION
To create professionally supported mentoring relationships, empowering youth to realize their potential and build BRIGHTER FUTURES.
Our People

Board of Directors

Officers
Chair, Margaret Sullivan, Avidia Bank
Vice Chair, Jack Hoehlein, Morgan Stanley
Treasurer, James Johnston, Bollus Lynch
Secretary, Ryan Kittredge, Carr Financial Group

Directors
Michael Burke, Hanover Insurance Group
Derek Grillo, Struck Catering
Shannon Hawley, Ernst & Young
Barbara Heisler, Heisler & Mattson Properties
Derenda Jeffrey, Nerium International
Eric Jenkins, Harrington Hoists, Inc.
Ahmad Lightfoot, TJX Companies
Helder Machado, Machado Consulting
Jeff Maimon, Ret., Ernst & Young
Lynette Paczkowski, Bowditch Attorneys
Kent Schreiner, Ret., Ernst & Young
Todd Tallman, Cornerstone Bank
Steve Taviner, Consultant
Paul Villena, First Pro, Inc.
Arin Whitman, Western New England University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Eram Zaheer, Dell/EMC

Mazie Mentoring Program Advisory Board

Officers
Chair, Jeff Maimon, Ret., Ernst & Young
Treasurer, Jay Goldfarb, Fortis Management Group
Secretary, Derenda Jeffrey, Nerium International

Advisors
Barbara Mazie, Ret., Co-Founder
Margaret Sullivan, Avidia Bank
Jack Hoehlein, Morgan Stanley
Lisa Blais, Zensar Technologies
Michael Burke, Hanover Insurance Group
Jessica Silverman, MENTOR
Robert Keller, Ret., CFO

Board of Advocates

Garry Weiner, Co-Chair
Dave Cole, Co-Chair
Lester Baker
Karen Bean
Sam Bitar
Jim Black
Christopher Brunell
Jim Bures
Tiffany Butler
Jason Camuti

Larry Cardani
Byron Deane
Tim Fontaine
Sal Guerra
Tracey Gustafson
Cameron Mabie
Michael McKiernan
Shannon Moffat
Bill Rigney
William Riordan

Doug Ross
Rich Schwarz
Jessica Silverman
Suzanne Sontgerath
Patrick Stephan
Jesse Urban
Andrei Ursache
Harry Wareham
Janet Bessette Ivaska

MYSTEAM Advisory Committee

Tiffany Butler
Kathy Hooper
Shannon Moffat
Irene Porro
Jessica Silverman

Suzanne Sontgerath
Jesse Urban
Andrei Ursache
Bill Rigney
The MYSTEAM Program aims to inspire our youth to engage in STEAM subjects in a safe and fun way, to enrich our already existing matches, and to draw in new volunteers and partners interested in the STEM fields and the arts. In the Fall of 2020, a new program was launched called GEM (Girls E-Mentoring). This program will match Little Sisters in Middle School and expose them to the STEAM field by matching them with a mentor who is a STEAM professional. Matches will meet virtually via Microsoft Teams once a week.
Our People

Staff Members

Administration and Development Staff:
Jeffrey Chin, Chief Executive Officer
Jackie Lyon, Director of Operations
Lindsay McCarthy, Marketing and Special Events Manager
Joy Monopoli, Office Manager
Devika Thayanban, Grant Writer/Foundations Manager
Jimmy Palmerino, Development Assistant

Program Staff

Worcester Region
Tyler Connors, Interview/Match Support Specialist (WACMP/STEAM)
Yarimar Figueroa, Program Coordinator (WACMP)
Emma Goldblatt, Interview/Match Support Specialist (WACMP)
Gabrielle Hamel, Interview/Match Support Specialist (Southern Worcester County)
Robyn Lilly, Program Coordinator (Community) (October 2020)
Kerry McTalfe, Mentoring Program Assistant
Masielle Paulino, Interview/Match Support Specialist (WACMP)
Katie Roy, Worcester Regional Program Director

Metrowest Region
Molly Bond, Match Support Specialist (Corporate)
Courtney Evans, Metrowest Regional Program Director

Mazie Mentoring Program Staff
Lalique Cervantes, Case Manager, Framingham and Waltham (March 2020)
Rachel Constanzo, Senior Program Director (June 2020)
Sean Cooney, Associate Director
Calleigh Leach, Program Manager, Waltham
Keely Oates, Program Manager, Waltham (July 2020)
Brandon Portillo, Program Manager, Framingham
Bryn Rediger, AmeriCorps Ambassador of Mentoring, Waltham

Program Interns
Rose Snape, Belmont Street School
Nick DiPilla, Boys & Girls Club – Plumley Village East
Emely Plasencia, Boys & Girls Club – Worcester
Cece Giuffrida, Clark University
James Nightengale, Clark University
Emma Pulizzi, Clark University
Meagan Albertson, College of the Holy Cross
Jordyn Arakelian, College of the Holy Cross
Michael Calcaterra, College of the Holy Cross
Robert Chesney, College of the Holy Cross
Martin Dorsey, College of the Holy Cross
Shannon Dwyer, College of the Holy Cross
Emma Grugan, College of the Holy Cross
Lu-Ann Hennessy, College of the Holy Cross
Lauren Ineson, College of the Holy Cross
Lindsay Jackson, College of the Holy Cross
Evan Kachris, College of the Holy Cross
Martin Kelly, College of the Holy Cross
Daniel Kurkowski, College of the Holy Cross
Michael Mackintire, College of the Holy Cross
Courtney McMullen, College of the Holy Cross
Minh Nguyen, College of the Holy Cross
Mary Grace O’Shea, College of the Holy Cross
Julia Pham, College of the Holy Cross
Will Poplawski, College of the Holy Cross
Jon Jon Roberts, College of the Holy Cross
Sarah Thurlow, College of the Holy Cross
Eve Wenger, College of the Holy Cross
Jacob Wieczorek, College of the Holy Cross
Rolando Cruz, Elm Park Community School
Carmen Sanchez, Kid’s Club – Great Brook Valley
Nathaniel Pinkham, UMass Amherst
Rasheduh Tatum, Vernon Hill School
Corporate & Community Partners

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass & Metrowest is fortunate to have formed strong relationships with corporations and community organizations that help us to achieve our mission by supporting and participating in our mentoring programs. We would like to thank all of our partners for helping us make our communities stronger.

Corporate Partners

Acadia Insurance
AMD
Avidia Bank
BJ’s Wholesale Clubs
Bose
Boston Scientific
Cytiva
Dell EMC
FedEx
GE Healthcare
Hanover Insurance Group
Intel
Jim Black Group
MathWorks
Middlesex Savings Bank
Morgan Stanley
Sanofi Genzyme
Staples
The TJX Companies
Unum

College Partners

Assumption College
Clark University
College of the Holy Cross
Nichols College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Worcester State University

School and Community Site Partners

Belmont Street Community School
Boys and Girls Club of Assabet Valley
Boys and Girls Club of Metrowest - Framingham and Marlborough
Boys and Girls Club of Webster-Dudley
Boys and Girls Club of Worcester - Great Brook Valley, Plumley Village and Harrington Clubhouse
Cameron Middle School
Canterbury Street School
David Mindess Elementary School
Dudley Elementary
Dudley Middle School
Elm Park Community School
Flagg Street Elementary School
Framingham High School
Fuller Middle School
Girls, Inc. of Worcester
Jacob Hiatt Magnet School
Lilja Elementary School
Marlborough High School
Our Bright Future
Tri-Community YMCA – Southbridge
Quinn Middle School
Quinsigamond Elementary
Vernon Hill Elementary School
Waltham High School
Whitcomb School - Marlborough Middle School
Woodland Elementary School
Worcester Arts Magnet School
Worcester Police Department
YMCA of Central Mass - Main Street, Worcester
YWCA of Central Massachusetts
This past year, the need for change around institutionalized racism and social injustice became evident due to the devastating current events that took place. Shamefully, many of the families of color in our programs have felt justifiably unsafe, for far too long. BBBS of Central Mass & MetroWest aims to be agents of change and do our part to rectify this injustice and bring about authentic understanding and necessary change.

To become true agents of change, we must prepare to do what is helpful and necessary to promote change. We are committed to devising and implementing a fully funded plan for an agency-wide, comprehensive Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training initiative. This training initiative will reach our entire organization – all staff, all board members, all volunteers. We pledge to listen to our families, to keep learning, and to do our part. To learn more about our DEI initiatives, please contact Yarimar.Figueroa@bbbscm.org.
Defenders of Potential

Bob Cousy MVP Award – Garry Weiner

The **Bob Cousy MVP Award** is given annually to a community partner who demonstrates consistent generosity and dedication to supporting the organization’s mission.

**Garry Weiner** epitomizes our mission – he is a long-time BBBS supporter, former Chair of our Board of Directors, current Board of Advocate member, and Big Brother. Garry truly believes in the mission of BBBS, demonstrated through his continued dedication to his “Little” Brother, Richie, who is now grown with a family of his own in Texas. In addition to over 10 years of work on our various boards, Garry is a valued part of the Morgan Stanley team in our Rodman Ride for Kids campaign, one of our largest fundraisers.

LAUNCH Innovation Award – Marlborough Public Schools

The **LAUNCH Innovation Award** honors a partner who helped propel the organization’s mission with a new, innovative service or program.

Marlborough Public Schools was selected for their support of the new Mazie Mentoring Program at Marlborough High School, which began in September 2019. The Mazie Mentoring Program recruits and trains adult volunteers to mentor high school students at risk of not reaching their full potential. Marlborough Public Schools have been a tremendous partner, providing insights, ideas, resources, and dedication to this new program in their high school. The Superintendent, **Michael Bergeron**, has even volunteered to be a mentor in the program!

Dr. H. Martin Deranian Fellowship Award – Jon Ryan

The **Dr. H. Martin Deranian Fellowship Award** is presented to a Big Brother or Big Sister who has demonstrated dedication and service to the organization and to their “Little”. This award is named in honor of Dr. H. Martin Deranian, who embodied the selfless and devoted spirit of an ideal mentor.

**Jon Ryan** has been a dedicated Big Brother to his Little, Carter since 2012. Jon is always there for Carter whether it is facetiming to help him with his homework, showing up at his sporting events, or taking him to do fun activities. In addition to being a Big, Jon has served on the BBBS board, he has participated and fundraised in the Rodman Ride for Kids, and been involved on multiple committees.
Colleen O’Brien Award – Peter Betrovski

The *Colleen O’Brien Memorial Award* is presented to a member of the organization who demonstrates exemplary dedication and service to the agency in a variety of roles. This award is named in honor of Colleen O’Brien, a past member of the Board of Directors who passed away tragically, but whose example inspired others to go above and beyond in their call to service.

We are thrilled to honor *Peter Betrovski* with our Annual Colleen O’Brien Memorial Award! Peter’s been an exemplary example of support and wisdom first as a Big Brother, then as a Board Member representing our incredible partner, The TJX Companies.

Linda Urbec Award – Connor Waldron

The *Linda Urbec Award* is presented to a match who shows the same persistence and dedication that Linda showed during her time at BBBS. The match is nominated by BBBS Staff for working through an obstacle or challenge, and has shown perseverance and determination in the process of reaching success.

*Connor Waldron* was a Big Brother through the Worcester Area College Mentoring Program at Holy Cross from 2016-2020. Connor showed his dedication to our mission through his relationship with his Little, Jespine. In 2020, we celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the John’s Brothers Program. The John’s Brothers Program was our first college mentoring program started by the College of the Holy Cross’ Men’s Lacrosse team to honor a player who had passed away in 2000.

Bigs in Blue

*Bigs in Blue* is a 1:1 mentoring program that connects youth with police in our communities, building strong, trusting, lasting relationships. These relationships can help children develop into confident adults and help build stronger bonds between law enforcement and the families they serve. We currently have partnerships with the Worcester and Framingham Police Departments serving 12 matches. In our efforts to expand the program, we are collaborating with additional towns in our service area to further connect youth and police through mentoring.
Our Programs

Community-Based Mentoring

The community-based program matches youth ages 6 to 12 years old with volunteer mentors from 42 cities and towns. Community matches are able to participate in any activities they choose! Some may opt for cooking, dining out, and watching movies together while others may enjoy hiking, sports, and games. It all depends on what interests the Big and Little share — it’s all up to them!

This year, our community matches have stayed connected virtually and many have enjoyed getting creative with new, social distancing guidelines. For example, matches use technology like Zoom and Facetime to enjoy their favorite activities like crafts, cooking, and games together, virtually. Matches are eligible to stay involved in our program until the Little graduates from high school. Although, many matches will stay in touch with each other long after the Little has graduated.

“Zaiden likes being a Little Brother because he enjoys spending time with someone that has the same interests as him. He always looks forward to the next time they meet again.”
~ Parent of Little, Zaiden

Corporate Site-Based Mentoring Program

“It has been amazing being able to see Tae in person these last few months, especially during such a challenging time for everyone. She has been able to let go and be a kid in our time together, whether we are doing a fun activity or simply watching a movie. We have had a lot of fun exploring her likes/dislikes and she has really opened up in this time together outside of the office.”
~ Sarah Winkler, Big Sister to Tae

The corporate site-based program matches local corporate volunteers with children at school-based or after school-based sites. The professionals who volunteer as Bigs enjoy taking an hour or two each week to mentor a young child. The matches are able to engage in activities of their choice at the site, such as going to the gym to play basketball, doing arts and crafts together, or working on the Little’s homework.

With schools and businesses closed most of the year, many of our matches involved in this program were missing each other. Some chose to meet virtually and some decided to transition to a Site-Based Plus match which means they can act as one of our Community Program matches and do their own activities. One match in particular, Tae and Sarah, from TJX transitioned to Site-Based Plus in July. Read about Tae’s experience in the quote above.
Chris is a student at the College of Holy Cross and Jaxsen attends The Boys & Girls Club of Worcester. They were matched 3 years ago because of similar personalities and interests in sports. Chris had prior experience working with children in his hometown in New York and wanted to continue doing so while in college. Their relationship throughout the years has really grown. Chris and Jaxsen communicate through Facetime nearly every weekend! They love talking about school, sports and video games. Chris has even attended some of Jaxsen’s baseball games! Even through the pandemic, Chris has made it a point to maintain contact with Jaxsen every weekend. Jaxsen’s mother is so grateful that her son has had Chris in his life, especially during this challenging year.

The Mazie Mentoring Program fulfills the legacy of John Andrew Mazie, a man who was a mentor to many young people before tragically dying in a car accident. In his honor, his parents Barbara and Lowell Mazie created the Mazie Mentoring Program which became part of BBBS in 2017. Since its foundation in 1998, the Mazie Mentoring Program has served over 900 students in both Framingham and Waltham High Schools. As of September 2019, a third program opened at Marlborough High School.

The program recruits and trains adult volunteers to mentor and act as role models for high school students at risk of not reaching their full potential. Its objective is to provide young people with the support to help them achieve their goals and succeed.

This past year, the program hosted many virtual events in an effort to continually engage the high school students with their mentors, despite social distancing. The virtual events included a financial aid seminar, financial literacy class, yoga and meditation session, trivia nights as well as our virtual graduation ceremony for the high school seniors graduating from the Mazie program and high school.

Thank You to our Corporate Mentoring Partners:

- Acadia Insurance
- Avidia Bank
- Dell EMC
- EFI
- The Hanover Insurance Group
- Intel
- Math Works
- Middlesex Savings Bank
- Staples
- TJX
- Unum

Thanks to the dedication and giving spirit of staff and students at five area colleges, BBBS of Central Mass & Metrowest has one of the largest college mentor programs in the country. More than 700 college students from five Worcester schools mentor at-risk children in the city’s elementary and middle schools each week. Since the program was born in 2000, over 6,000 lives have been changed!

Learn about one of our special WACMP matches below!

Chris is a student at the College of Holy Cross and Jaxsen attends The Boys & Girls Club of Worcester. They were matched 3 years ago because of similar personalities and interests in sports. Chris had prior experience working with children in his hometown in New York and wanted to continue doing so while in college. Their relationship throughout the years has really grown. Chris and Jaxsen communicate through Facetime nearly every weekend! They love talking about school, sports and video games. Chris has even attended some of Jaxsen’s baseball games! Even through the pandemic, Chris has made it a point to maintain contact with Jaxsen every weekend. Jaxsen’s mother is so grateful that her son has had Chris in his life, especially during this challenging year.
2020 Special Events

Bowl for Kids’ Sake

January 20, 2020 | Bowlero, Shrewsbury

Bowl for Kids’ Sake is a peer-to-peer fundraiser in which supporters raise money leading up to the event, then come together to bowl and celebrate while enjoying raffle drawings, food and fun. 2020 was the first year this event was held in January to align with National Mentoring Month. Bowl for Kids Sake raised $17,000 to support our mission!

Pin Sponsors
- bankHometown
- Bay State Savings Bank
- Westborough Modern Dentistry
- Shrewsbury Rotary Club

Other Supporters
- Central One Credit Union
- Neora International

Golf For Kids’ Sake

July 13, 2020 | Framingham Country Club, Framingham

BBBS is grateful we were able to host a socially distanced golf tournament in this challenging year. We are so appreciative of the participants and sponsors who continued to support the event despite not having the usual BBQ lunch, dinner, and silent auction. Seventy golfers arrived at their designated tee times throughout the day and enjoyed a round of golf. We were able to raise nearly $60,000.

Birdie Sponsor
- Cornerstone Bank

Par Sponsor
- Charles River Insurance
- Engie Resources

Corporate Sponsor
- Advanced Fuel Solutions
- Albireo Energy
- Arbella Insurance

Commonwealth Electrical Technologies
- Constellation
- Cunningham & Associates
- Direct Energy
- Hudson Energy Services
- Norfolk & Dedham Group
- Quincy Mutual
- Wolf & Company
- XS Brokers Insurance Agency, Inc.
The Rodman Ride for Kids is a 25 or 50 mile bicycle ride to benefit nonprofit organizations serving at-risk youth in Massachusetts. This year, between Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Mazie Mentoring Program, we had 14 teams comprised of over 140 participants! Because the event was virtual, participants were able to “choose their own adventure” and earn pledges along the way. Thanks to our teams’ fundraising efforts supporting Big Brothers Big Sisters and Mazie, we raised over $120,000 in proceeds!

The Big Night In

Each year, The Big Celebration, is held each Spring and is our largest fundraising event. Originally scheduled for April 4, 2020, it was cancelled due to the pandemic. The event committee and staff pivoted and created The Big Night In, an online auction which culminated in a virtual event. BBBS supporters tuned in on October 29th to our Youtube channel to view an exciting, inspirational, and fun program that featured many of our matches, contests, and musical performances. Through sponsorships, donations, and the auction, we raised over $125,000!

Platinum Sponsor
The Hanover Insurance Group

Gold Sponsors
Avidia Bank
Bob’s Discount Furniture
TJX Companies

Silver Sponsor
Country Bank

Bronze Sponsor
Nutter, McClennen & Fish, LLP
AbbVie BioResearch Company
NetScout

Hollywood Sponsors
Bowditch & Dewey
College of the Holy Cross
Cornerstone Bank
Curry Printing
Interstate Specialty Products
Middlesex Savings Bank
Douglas Mizzi

Morgan Stanley
Parsons Commercial Group
Tarentino Foundation
Wings Over Worcester
Webster Five

Jazz Sponsors
Benjamin & White, P.C.
Bollus Lynch LLP
Central One Credit Union

Fidelity Bank
JJ Bafaro, Inc.
Ken’s Foods
PawSox Foundation

Event Production Sponsors
AC Hotels Marriot - Worcester
Ember
MassAV
that we’ve been able to support 40 families with a stipend since launching the Emergency Relief Fund was set-up to provide financial support to the families we serve. We are honored that we soon realized that our families were being affected. An Emergency Relief Fund (ERF) was established to address the immediate financial needs of families in response to the economic challenge caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the Spring of 2020, when our world changed due to the coronavirus pandemic, BBBS C.A.R.E.S (Creating Access to Resources and Emergency Support) provided emergency financial support to 40 families that were facing significant financial challenges. This support included, but was not limited to, providing vital resources such as food, clothing, and emergency loans to families in need.

Our referral service partners are Cradles to Crayons and Axuda to provide the much-needed services in addition to mentoring. Through this partnership, we were able to offer a wide range of resources to families, ensuring that their basic needs were met.

BBBS C.A.R.E.S (Creating Access to Resources and Emergency Support) provides a child or their family with services in addition to mentoring. Through this initiative, we can connect our families with other supportive agencies that provide critical items needed by families, such as food, clothing, emergency loans, holiday help, and other support to help get them through challenging times. Our referral service partners are Cradles to Crayons and Axuda to provide the resources some of our families desperately need.

In the Spring of 2020, when our world changed due to the coronavirus pandemic, we soon realized that our families were being affected. An Emergency Relief Fund was set-up to provide financial support to the families we serve. We are honored that we’ve been able to support 40 families with a stipend since launching the program in June.
Stephen Ferrari
Matthew Fischetti
Peter Flynn
John Fraser
Joseph Friers
Steve Fusil
Joanne Gatto
Cynthia Gerace
Kenny Gersh
Dona Gianfrancesca
Kenneth Giaquinto
Kerry Gilder
Golda, LLC
Gail Graziano
Arthur Gutierrez
Lucy Hale
Kevin Hannan
Frederick Heinrichs
Edward and Jane Herzig
David & Linda Hill
Honor Capital
Bob Hotarek
Wayne Huntton
Indresano Energy Company
J. Clifton Avery Agency
Lindsay Jackson
David Jacobs
Mary Jenkins
Eve Johnston
Elizabeth Jones
Evon Kachris
Amrit and Saran Kanwal
Gail Karaganis
Julie Keating
Elisabeth Keller
Daniel Keilh
Kathleen Keohane
Judith King
Lisa Kirby Gibbs
Douglas Knaus
Clifford and Ilene Kolovos
Joanne Landry
Scott Landry
Harold and Carol Lazar
Ellen Libet
Lifetime Home Health Corp.
Parry and Melissa Linehan
John Logomasini
Edward Long
Peter and Danielle Long
William Lyon
Helder Machado
Joseph Magnier
Laura Mariano
Joseph Marietta
Marilyn Markarian
Kenneth Marks
Saralyn Marquis
Jake Maruna
Mass Development
Barbara Mазие
D’Arcy McCarthy
Ryan and Lindsay McCarthy
Damien McGough
Chris McGrath
Lori McKellar
Conor McKenna
Brian McKenzie
Michael McLaughlin
John McNicholas
Stephen Medawar
Kathryn Miller-Desroches
Shannon Moffat
Nick and Joy Monopoli
Kevin Morrison
Philip Moser
Keith Moser
Peter Murphy
Kathleen Mwangi
Gregory Neufeld
New England PBA Local 911
Danny Ng
Dina Nichols
Oakley Graphics
Tim O’Brien
Bridget O’Brien
Chris and Susan O’Connell
Alex Oropall
Seamus O’Shea
Dorothy O’Shea
Lynette Paczkowski
Richard Paliaszcz
Brian and Carol Parker
Robert Paul
George Peter
Matthew & Jessica Piro
Plymouth Rock Assurance
Seth Popinchalk
Margaret Ramsey
Ron Ravalese
Michael Readon
Daniel Reilly
Brian Rice
Scott Richmond
Martin Riddle
Lewis Robbins
Mark Robinson
James Robin
Jeannette Roegge
Erik Rolfsen
Renaido Romero
Evan Ross
Richard Ross
Katherine Roy
Jon and Rebecca Ryan
Liam Ryan
Jeff Sachs
Thomas Scanlon
Irene Schmaiz
Kent and Laurie Schreiner
Brian Scollard
Scott Sepinuck
Alan Seymour
Matthew Shedd
Tod and Kelly Short
James and Susan Shulman
Shelia Shute
Elizabeth Simon
Peter Small
Corryn Smith
Pamela Snyder
Southbridge Credit Union
William Spanenberg
Nathan Spinney
Geoff and Juliana Spofford
St. Mary’s Credit Union
Donna Steele
Gregory Steinberg
Robert Sullivan
Adam Suttin
Matthew Sweeney
James Tashjian
Ellen Taylor
Marlyn Taylor
Jeffrey Teskie
Devika Thayanan
Ryan Troy
Unitarian Universalist Church
Andrei Ursache
Walter Utzmann
Kathleen Vaccaro
Kathy Van Zandt
Herbert and Jean Varnum
Justin Vernon
Mayor Arthur Vigeant
Thomas Vocaturia, Jr
Wahid & Maureen Wassef
Webster First Federal Credit Union
Martin Weiner
Jeffrey and Cheryl Weiner Sacks
James Welu
Denise Wernicoff
Marc Wilson
Sargent Wood
Worcester Police Union
Brooks and Linda Zug
Friendship Sponsor ($1-$149)
Andrew Abu
Dereth Adams
Michael Agbortoko
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The “Bob Cousy Legacy Fund” was created in 2018 to help build an endowment that will ensure that Big Brothers Big Sisters continues to ignite the potential of every child well into the future. Maureen and Charlie Tillett, two of our most generous supporters, have made a commitment of $50,000 over five years to help match contributions to this fund. If you want to plan a legacy gift that keeps giving, please contact Jeffrey Chin, CEO, at Jeffrey.Chin@bbbscm.org for the many ways to give a child an opportunity to have a positive adult mentor.
Big Brothers Big Sisters has partnered with the Hartsprings Foundation beginning in October 2020. The Hartsprings Foundation collects used, unwanted clothing and small household items on behalf of several Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies. The foundation sells the collected donations to Savers and donates the revenue to 6 Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies. By March 2021, the Hartsprings Foundation will be collecting donations from all 42 towns and cities served by our agency.

To learn more about our partnership with the Hartsprings Foundation, visit www.bbbscm.org/give.

To make a donation of clothing and small household items to support our programs, contact:

The Hartsprings Foundation
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