



# Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass

2024  
Impact  
Report

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# A Note from our Board Chair

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As the Board Chair of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass, it is my honor to present to you our Annual Report for 2024. This year has been one of both challenge and triumph, a year in which we saw the strength of our community and the power of mentorship shine brighter than ever.

At Big Brothers Big Sisters, we are guided by a simple yet profound belief: that every child has the potential to achieve greatness when they have the right support and guidance. Our organization exists to ensure that every child, regardless of their circumstances, has the opportunity to reach their fullest potential. Through our caring volunteers, generous supporters, and dedicated staff, we've been able to make a meaningful impact on the lives of hundreds of children throughout the Bluegrass region.

As you read through this report, you will learn about the incredible progress we have made, the lives we've touched, and the milestones we've celebrated. This success would not be possible without the continued commitment and belief in our mission from people like you—our mentors, donors, community partners, and volunteers.

I am excited to share the highlights of the year, as well as our vision for the future. Together, we are building a brighter tomorrow for the youth of the Bluegrass, one relationship at a time.

Thank you for your unwavering support of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass. We couldn't do this important work without you!

Sincerely,  
Abe Mashini  
2024 Board Chair  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass

# Who We Are

## OUR MISSION & VISION

Our Mission is to empower kids by creating and supporting one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth. Our Vision is that all youth achieve their full potential.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass is an affiliate of the US's oldest, most respected mentoring organization. Our mission-driven, performance-based organization is professionally managed and provides high-quality 1:1 mentoring services to over 200 children and their families in Central Kentucky across 14 counties: Anderson, Bath (High School Bigs only), Bourbon, Boyle, Clark, Fayette, Franklin, Garrard, Jessamine, Lincoln, Madison, Montgomery, Scott, Woodford.

As the Bluegrass Region's largest donor and volunteer-supported mentoring network, Big Brothers Big Sisters makes meaningful, monitored matches between adult volunteers ("Bigs") and children ("Littles") from age seven through high school graduation. Private corporate, foundation, state and local grants, events, and individual contributions provide the revenue base upon which we build programming that meets the needs of each child individually. Our programs are proven to keep kids in school, out of trouble, and on the path to post-graduate success.

## OUR PROGRAMS

Community Based Mentoring  
School Plus Mentoring  
High School Big Program  
College Big Program

### **Safe & Trusted Mentorship:**

Free background checks on all Bigs to ensure child safety.

**Personalized Matches:** We get to know each Little and Big to create meaningful, lasting connections.

**Ongoing Support:** Weekly on-site supervision and guidance for Bigs and Littles.

**Family & School Connection:** Serve as a bridge between families, schools, and kids for stronger support.

**Measuring Impact:** Regular check-ins and surveys to track growth and improve the experience.

**Completely Free:** No cost for our families or school partners — just life-changing relationships.



# 2024 Awards



## 2024 NONPROFIT COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD COMMERCE LEXINGTON

Commerce Lexington Inc.'s Salute to Small Business Nonprofit Impact Award honors outstanding nonprofits making a significant positive impact in Lexington through their services, fundraising, and volunteer engagement.

## BBBSA GROWTH AWARD

BIG BROTHERS BIG  
SISTERS OF AMERICA

The Growth Award celebrates agencies that have demonstrated consistent increases in mentoring relationships. For us, that means more children in Central Kentucky gaining access to the power of a supportive, caring adult- someone to listen, guide, and inspire.



# 2024 Kids Served

In 2024, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass (BBBSBG) proudly served 238 children across 13 counties in Central Kentucky, including Anderson, Bourbon, Clark, Boyle, Fayette, Franklin, Garrard, Jessamine, Lincoln, Madison, Montgomery, Scott, and Woodford. Our dedicated mentors provided over 1,000 hours of mentoring each month, fostering meaningful, one-to-one relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth.



## Who are our Littles?

Children 6-18 years old

3 out of 4 littles live at or below the poverty line

95% of our Littles receive free or reduced price lunches

1 in 5 Littles were affected by the opioid crisis

## Who are our Bigs?

Caring high school & college students and adults

Mentors of all ages, races, genders, and backgrounds

Littles report  
improved  
relationship  
skills



Bigs report  
improved  
leadership  
skills



Bigs and  
Littles report  
improved  
self esteem

### **Safe & Trusted Mentorship:**

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**Personalized Matches:** We get to know each Little and Big to create meaningful, lasting connections.

**Ongoing Support:** Weekly on-site supervision and guidance for Bigs and Littles.

### **Family & School Connection:**

Serve as a bridge between families, schools, and kids for stronger support.

**Measuring Impact: Regular** check-ins and surveys to track growth and improve the experience.

**Completely Free:** No cost for our families or school partners — just life-changing relationships.



# 2024 Matches of the Year!



Matched since July 2023, Louis and Dwight share a strong bond built on weekly outings and excellent communication with Louis' parent, Tamecko. After waiting 1,839 days for a mentor, Louis now enjoys new experiences like visiting the Kentucky Horse Park and trying new foods.

Beyond outings, Dwight has improved Louis' living conditions, sponsored summer camps, and supported his family. Their match showcases the transformative impact of mentorship, embodying the mission of BBBS.

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# 2024 Matches of the Year!



Matched since April 2023, Ja'Zayah and Jennifer have built a strong bond through creative activities like yoga, arts and crafts, and festivals. Jennifer, inspired by her own mentors, introduces Ja'Zayah to new experiences like dinosaur digs and aviation museums, boosting her confidence and self-assurance. Their meaningful connection exemplifies the power of mentorship, with both growing and learning together.

Matched since 2022, Ben and Aaron have built a strong bond through shared experiences and personal growth. After losing a parent, Ben found a mentor in Aaron, who introduced him to sports, new foods, and his first haunted house. Despite busy schedules, Aaron remains a steady presence, helping Ben gain confidence, excel in AP classes, and thrive in track. Their meaningful connection continues to grow, shaping a brighter future for Ben.





# Bowl for Kids' Sake

Our largest peer-to-peer fundraising event, Bowl for Kids' Sake, took fun to a whole new level in 2024. Starting in February, BBBSBG hosted a variety of bowling events, bringing together corporate partners, community members, and volunteers to support our mission. Celebrating with our "Superhero" theme, teams decorated their lanes, dressed in costumes, and had a great time while raising funds that are instrumental to our work. Together, we raised \$266,288!





# Big in the Bluegrass Gala



On November 9, 2024, we celebrated our 3rd Annual Big in the Bluegrass Gala at the stunning Longship Club at Kroger Field. The evening included heartfelt tributes to our inspiring Matches of the Year, Ambassador of the Year, and the invaluable community partners whose support drives our mission to empower local youth. Guests enjoyed an unforgettable night, dancing to the lively sounds of Encore, bidding on exclusive auction items, and deepening their connection to BBBSBG's work. Thanks to their generosity, the event raised an impressive \$132,240 to sustain and expand our local programming.





# BC Wood Properties Charity Golf Classic



The 3rd Annual BC Wood Charity Golf Classic was a tremendous success, raising over \$29,000 to support BBBSBG's life-changing mentoring programs. Golf enthusiasts and community supporters came together for a fantastic day at Lexington Country Club, combining their love for the sport with a shared commitment to empowering local youth. This event not only provides vital funding but also amplifies awareness of our mission. A heartfelt thank you to Brian Wood, Owner of BC Wood Properties, and his team, for their unwavering partnership and generosity!



# My New Kentucky Home UK Partnership



Our partnership with the University of Kentucky Athletics Department has been instrumental in providing unique opportunities for our Littles. Through this collaboration, matches attended various sporting events, met student-athletes, and participated in The Kentucky Road: My New Kentucky Home Field Day., a day where all freshman athletes and transfers across all sports welcomed our Littles to a day of outdoor activities and competitions on campus for a fun and memorable experience! This alliance not only offers our Littles exposure to collegiate sports but also inspires them to pursue higher education and athletic endeavors.



# 2024 Partners & Sponsors

White Castle  
Toyota  
Central Bank  
Iconex  
Don Jacobs  
Cotton Patch  
Taziki's Medeterrian Grill  
Big Ass Fans  
Middleground Capital  
Chaffin Parenting  
Messer  
Russell Capital  
Gray Construction  
RJ Corman  
Mashni Law  
Friends of Coal  
Central Bank  
UK Healthcare  
Republic Bank  
Chase Legal  
Alpha Lit  
Wildcat Moving  
Lex18  
The Zenith Company



## 2024 Grants

Murray Foundation  
Marksbury Family Foundation  
Opioid Abatement  
Commission Grant

# Thank You!



# 2024 Board of Directors

**Chair: Abe Mashni -Mashni Law**

**Marcey Ansley- The Hearing & Speech Center**

**Larry Cash- University of Kentucky**

**Alisha Chaffin -Chaffin Lifestyles**

**Tom Corr- Central Bank & Trust Co.**

**Afton Fairchild- American Heart Association**

**Rob Gabbert- Gabbert Consulting**

**Anthony Gonzalez- Golden Law Office**

**Christina Houser- Baird**

**Molly Loy- Stoll Keenon Ogden**

**Heidi Matheys**

**Patricia Morgeson- Republic Bank**

**Dan Nelson- Big Ass Fans**

**Beth Pickrell**

**Jason Rainey- Mt. Sterling Chamber of Commerce**

**Ilya Sharapov- Lexington Police Department**

**Adam Smith- A. Smith Law PLLC**

**Reggie Smith- Messer Construction**

**John Smith- Wealth South**

**Jeff Whitford- Iconex**

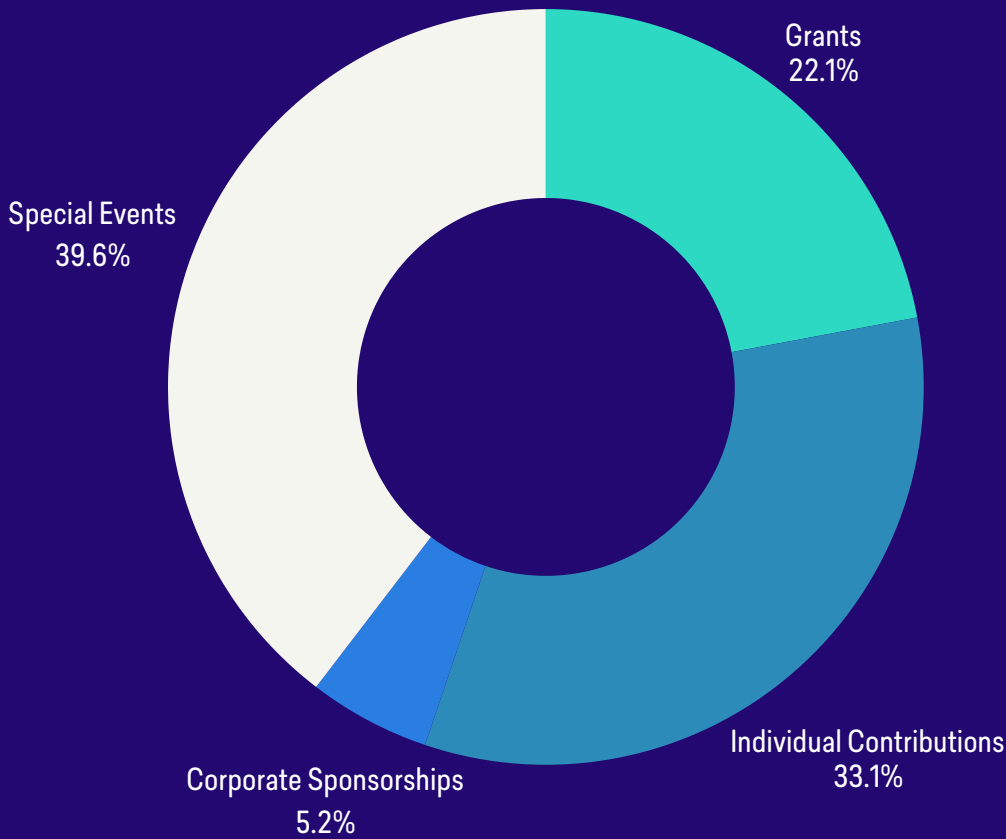
**Ellen Williams- Kentucky American Water**

**Amanda Brown- UK Athletic Department**

**Miranda Scully- Fayette County Public Schools**

# 2024 Financials

## Income



## Expenses

