

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



WELLS FARGO DONATES \$95,000 TO BIG BROTHERS SISTERS INDEPENDENCE REGION

***Provides Key Funding for Beyond School Walls Workplace Mentoring Program and
Mentoring Partnership and Resource Center***

PHILADELPHIA, PA., (Dec. 14, 2016) – Today, Wells Fargo announced it has made a \$95,000 donation to Big Brothers Big Sisters Independence Region (BBBS Independence), as part of its community funding initiative. A portion of the funding will support 25 mentoring matches participating in the Wells Fargo Beyond School Walls program, an innovative workplace mentoring program started by BBBS Independence in 2006. Remaining proceeds will support the youth mentoring organization’s Mentoring Partnership & Resource Center (MPRC).

“Through a combination of strategic relationships with local and national nonprofits, grants, and other community investments, we’re creating solutions that help strengthen the communities in which we operate,” said Aldustus (A.J.) Jordan, Senior Vice President & Community Affairs Manager for Wells Fargo’s Government and Community Relations Group. “We’ve seen firsthand the incredible impact our staff can make in the community by supporting disadvantaged youth through our own Beyond School Walls mentoring program. We not only wanted to continue to support this important program, but broaden our investment to include the MPRC, an entity which aims to help even more children within the Greater Philadelphia area.”

The MPRC, launched in 2015, is designed to serve as a vehicle for BBBS Independence to extend its reach and impact more children by helping other youth mentoring organizations improve their practices. The MPRC works with other nonprofit organizations in the region to improve the quality and effectiveness of mentoring by focusing on four main pillars of service: training and technical assistance, stakeholder engagement, advocacy, and data collection. It aims to strengthen youth mentoring through collaboration and partnership. “Our goal is to close the mentoring gap, so that all 200,000+ children in our region in need of a high quality mentor can have one,” said Abigail Ellis, Executive Director of the MPRC.

Wells Fargo will make an official check presentation on December 14, 2016- in the Wells Fargo Museum located at its headquarter offices at 123 S. Broad Street in Philadelphia. It will be the final meeting day of the 2016 Wells Fargo Beyond School Walls program, where Wells Fargo employee mentors (called “Bigs”) will exchange gifts with their mentees (called “Littles”) as a way to celebrate the holiday season.

Now in its fifth year of partnership with BBBS Independence for the Beyond School Walls program, a workplace mentoring program that provides children with a first-hand look at the corporate world, Wells Fargo has donated \$150,000 in financial support and nearly 1,500 employee volunteer hours.

The results of this commitment speak for themselves. Children who are paired with Big Brothers or Big Sisters show remarkable improvements in their personal and academic lives. They gain confidence in their schoolwork, develop better relationships with their family members, and are less likely to skip school. In fact, young adults who were at-risk but have a mentor are 55% more likely to enroll in college and 130% more likely to hold a leadership position according to the National Mentoring Partnership.

About Wells Fargo

Wells Fargo & Company (NYSE: WFC) is a diversified, community-based financial services company with \$1.9 trillion in assets. Founded in 1852 and headquartered in San Francisco, Wells Fargo provides banking, insurance, investments, mortgage, and consumer and commercial finance through more than 8,600 locations, 13,000 ATMs, the internet (wellsfargo.com) and mobile banking, and has offices in 42 countries and territories to support customers who conduct business in the global economy. With approximately 269,000 team members, Wells Fargo serves one in three households in the United States. Wells Fargo & Company was ranked No. 27 on Fortune's 2016 rankings of America's largest corporations. Wells Fargo's vision is to satisfy our customers' financial needs and help them succeed financially.

About Big Brothers Big Sisters

Big Brothers Big Sisters provides children facing adversity, often those of single or low-income households or families where a parent is incarcerated or serving in the military, with strong and enduring, professionally supported one-to-one mentoring relationships that change their lives for the better, forever. This mission has been the cornerstone of the organization's 110 year history. Big Brothers Big Sisters, the nation's largest donor and volunteer supported mentoring network, holds itself accountable for children in its program to achieve measurable outcomes such as educational success, avoidance of risky behaviors, higher aspirations, greater confidence and better relationships. With nearly 340 agencies across the country, Big Brothers Big Sisters serves approximately 200,000 children, their families and 200,000 volunteer mentors. Learn more at www.BigBrothersBigSisters.org.

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