



Big Brothers  
Big Sisters.<sup>®</sup>  
INDEPENDENCE

[www.independencebigs.org](http://www.independencebigs.org)

# WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Since 1915, Big Brothers Big Sisters Independence (BBBS Independence) has been creating and supporting one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth, while working collaboratively to strengthen the quality of the mentoring field. Big Brothers Big Sisters' evidence-based approach is designed to create positive youth outcomes, including educational success, avoidance of risky behaviors, higher aspirations, greater confidence, and improved relationships. Through its community-based and school-based youth mentoring programs, more than 1,600 children are served annually in Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia Counties in Pennsylvania, and Burlington, Camden and Gloucester Counties in New Jersey. In 2015, the organization created MENTOR Independence Region to work collaboratively with external organizations to fuel the quality and quantity of mentoring relationships for greater Philadelphia's young people and close the mentoring gap. Learn how to get involved at [www.independencebigs.org](http://www.independencebigs.org).

## VOLUNTEER TO BECOME A MENTOR

- **Community-Based Mentoring:** Volunteer mentors (Bigs) and their mentees (Littles) meet on weekends or after school to enjoy match activities, play sports, visit museums or just talk. Spending time together out in the local community is how Bigs and Littles develop a solid relationship. Bigs and Littles engage in one-to-one outings and activities they both enjoy 2-4 times a month
- **School-Based Mentoring:** Sometimes the best place for a mentoring match to enjoy activities together is at the Little's school or in the Big's workplace. We are proud to offer four types of Site-Based Mentoring Programs.
  1. **Beyond School Walls:** Littles visit their Bigs during the week at their workplace, giving children an opportunity to experience the corporate world first-hand.
  2. **Corporate Bigs:** Professionals in Center City Philadelphia mentor children at Independence Charter School and Russell Byers Charter School once a week during lunchtime throughout the school year.
  3. **College Bigs:** College students are matched with elementary and middle school students and spend time together at the Little's school during lunchtime or after school.
  4. **Mentor 2.0:** College educated professionals mentor students virtually at Parkway Center City High School. Curriculum is online, while mentors meet their mentees in person once per month during the school year.



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## VOLUNTEER TO SUPPORT LOCAL COMMUNITIES DURING COVID-19

Big Brothers Big Sisters Independence and community partners delivers COVID-19 Community Care Packages to hundreds of families of youth participating in its mentoring programs. The packages contain prepared lunches, non-perishable food items, a family game, a cookbook, and F95 disposable masks. Volunteers are needed for set up, assembly, and delivery of packages.

For more information, please contact Gabrielle Harb at [gharb@independencbigs.org](mailto:gharb@independencbigs.org).

## VOLUNTEER, ATTEND, OR SPONSOR OR A SIGNATURE EVENT

- **FlavorFest:** Enjoy all-you-can-eat food tastings from South Jersey's best local restaurants and caterers. Attendees will also enjoy a selection of 20+ crafted beers, compete in a corn hole tournament, enjoy games and prizes, and participate in a wine pull auction. (April, Double Nickel Brewing Company)
- **Big Day Out:** This summer, the agency is launching a family friendly bike ride and picnic to raise critical funds supporting our transformational mentorships and to bring awareness to the 760 children still waiting to be matched with a mentor of their own. (July 9th, Franklin Square Park)
- **22nd Annual Golf Classic:** Each year, more than 250 golfers take to the greens and raise funds to help BBBS Independence reduce the number of children on its waiting list and match more children in one-to-one mentoring relationships in Southeastern Pennsylvania & Southern New Jersey. Sponsorships and foursomes are available for purchase. (October 4th, Philadelphia Cricket Club)
- **DEI and Workplace Mentoring Summit:** Join MENTOR Independence Region and corporate leaders as we discuss important DEI and social justice issues impacting organizations as they navigate changing workplace and community environments. (November, specific date and location TBD)

For more information or details regarding events, please contact Rachele Armstrong at [rarmstrong@independencbigs.org](mailto:rarmstrong@independencbigs.org).

## BECOME A DONOR OR SPONSOR

Your financial support helps us to do what we do best - empower kids in our community to achieve their full potential. Not everyone has the same opportunity in life, but your donation helps us develop more college grads, community leaders, business leaders and entrepreneurs.

- Monthly giving is the easiest way to make a huge impact on our programs. Monthly gifts of all sizes help provide a reliable and consistent source of funding to create and sustain mentoring relationships throughout the year.
- Make a one-time gift of any size to ensure quality mentoring can continue despite these uncertain times.

For more information, please visit  
<https://www.independencbigs.org/give/>

## JOIN ONE OF OUR BOARDS

- Governing Board of Directors
- Philadelphia County Regional Advisory Board
- Montgomery County Regional Advisory Board
- Chester County Regional Advisory Board
- Delaware County Regional Advisory Board
- New Jersey Regional Advisory Board

For more information or details about requirements, please contact Kirsten Halker-Kratz at [KHalkerKratz@independencbigs.org](mailto:KHalkerKratz@independencbigs.org).



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