

# IGNITING POTENTIAL

ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22



**Big Brothers  
Big Sisters**  
OF NORTH SIMCOE

[NORTHSIMCOE.BIGBROTHERSBIGSISTERS.CA](http://NORTHSIMCOE.BIGBROTHERSBIGSISTERS.CA)

(705) 526-5051



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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

### Said best by our friend Curt Hammond

"No matter where we are sitting today it is important for us to remember that long before our community was here there were thriving peoples, cultures and traditions on this same land. These cultures tried very hard to teach us how to steward our land, water and air. Unfortunately, we did a terrible job at listening to their wisdom and our environment is now paying that price. Even worse, we have not acknowledged that our communities are literally built on top of these strong cultures. We cannot hide from the social, emotional and economic damage this has done to generations of families across Canada. It is important for us to recognize that the strength of our community today comes from those who were here before us. It is also our responsibility to remind future leaders they are a part of a continuum of leadership that started with Indigenous culture. Finally, each of us needs to remember that truth has to come before reconciliation. " - Curt Hammond

**Learn more about Four Simple Words here;  
<https://foursimplewords.ca/>**



## ABOUT US

### MISSION

Enable life-changing mentoring relationships that ignite the power and potential of young people

### VISION

Every child in North Simcoe who needs a mentor has a mentor.

### 2020-2021 STATS

- 30** Big Brother/Sister Matches
- 3** Teen Mentoring Matches
- 13** School-based Matches (5 schools)
- 30** Average Littles on waitlist
- 52** Active Bigs
- 30** Little inquires
- 50** Big inquires
- 2** Game On mentor inquiries
- 6** Game On Participants
- 33** Go Girls Participants (**7 Returned**)
- 25** Average Big Bunch attendance (**10 Big Bunches**)



## EXECUTIVE CORNER

Pivot, hybrid, adapt- These key words would certainly pertain to the past year of mentoring programs for BBBBS North Simcoe

Essential and Resilient- The Defining words that support our work and the reason behind it COVID and the pandemic means something different for all of us yet no one would argue that it didn't have an impact or toll on their lives. The same holds true for our Bigs and Littles. More than ever we witnessed the need for an increased social network, extra supports for both parents, youth and our volunteers.

We are very proud of our board and our staff- for their persistence, creativity and a goal of ensuring we continued to support our youth and their families without pause

The benefits of learning alternate ways of delivering programs, running fundraisers and connecting people were emphasized and the community responded positively to our need for their help. The number of inquiries for volunteers, the number of inquiries for families wanting their children in our programs and the financial support of our sponsors, donors and partners all helped us to successfully move forward

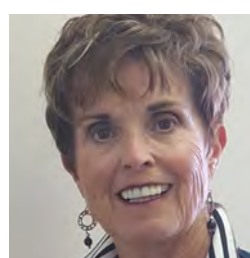
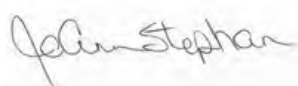
A huge THANK you to our BBBS team- LeeAnne, Asia, Haylie and Melanie for their dedication to making it all work and also to our Board. The direction and leadership of Susan Inrig supported by a group of dedicated and creative individuals allow the agency to grow, thrive and continue to evolve to the everchanging needs of children and youth through powerful mentoring opportunities.

Through an OTF Resiliency Grant we were able to work on a fresh new strategic plan to move our agency forward over the next 3 years. We engaged community, Bigs, Littles, Parents and our staff and board to create the pillars for the growth and sustainability of our mission. Stay tuned for more detailed outline of what we are doing starting in 2023.

As we head into next fiscal year, we are as well-positioned and dedicated as ever to achieving our goal of making more matches, making them faster, and serving more families in the community. And if we can do this, we will be doing our part in addressing some of society's most complex issues. We thank you for believing in our agency and the power of mentoring.



JoAnn Stephan  
Executive Director  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of  
North Simcoe



Susan Inrig  
Board President  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of  
North Simcoe



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# COMMUNITY & CORPORATE SUPPORT

## MAJOR SPONSORS



## MAJOR GRANTS & CORPORATE/ COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Ontario  
Trillium Foundation



**Tiny**  
TOWNSHIP OF / CANTON DE



Ministry of Education



TELUS Friendly  
Future Foundation



# COMMUNITY & CORPORATE SUPPORT

## ANNUAL SPONSORSHIP

One time contact for sponsorship for the entire year. Ranging from \$750- \$5000.

### TIERS

- Title Sponsor \$5000.00
- Gold Sponsor -\$2500.00
- Silver Sponsor -\$1500.00
- Bronze Sponsor -\$750.00-\$1000.00



## 2021-2022 ANNUAL SPONSORS

- Canadian Tire
- Adco Tire & Auto
- Charles Morden Construction
- Todd Lalonde \*New
- Monica McCready
- HGR Graham Partners
- Avionics Design
- PRF and Custom Kitchens \*New
- Midas
- Home Hardware
- Lab X

## COMMUNITY & CORPORATE SUPPORT

### 2021/22 WRAP UP

#### In-Kind Donations

In-Kind donations can include business services, event tickets, gift certificates and more.



#### Monthly Giving

2 Monthly Donors.

#### Legacy of Hope

You can support BBBSNS by including a donation in your will.

#### Stock Donations

2 Stock Donations.  
**1 New**

#### Tribute & Memorial Gifts

Honour a friend, mentor, or family member with a gift in their honour.

### Community Donations and Projects

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>10</b> Food Nation and BGC North Simcoe kits provided to families</p> <p><b>8</b> Ukulele's from Johnstone's Music</p> <p><b>8</b> Participants in Midland Cultural Centre/ Derek Grey Music Program</p> <p><b>28</b> Participants in Quest Art Banner Project</p> <p><b>15</b> Participants in 2 Scientists in Schools workshops</p> <p>Sol to Soul food kits</p> <p>Utility Box Project</p> <p>Banner Project</p> | <p><b>34</b> Paul's No-Frills Midland pumpkins for Big Bunch</p> <p><b>3</b> Littles sent to Tim Hortons Camp</p> <p><b>15</b> Backpacks donated by Pam Day and Le Baie Creperie</p> <p><b>5</b> Matches went on "WOW" Opportunities on behalf of Sheldon East</p> <p>Jennifer Richardson – Kahoot Trivia, and Christmas party</p> <p>Rotary Boxes</p> <p>Activity Newsletter</p> |
|---|---|

Please see our Linktree (found on final page) for more information on how to get involved.





# PROGRAMS

## One to One

### Community 1:1 School-Based

### \*New Teen Mentoring

#### Community 1:1

Matches choose their own schedule, activities, events or community resources to explore. The Community Based Program strives to provide a role model and friend, promote the importance of staying in school, and healthy relationships with family and peers, instill trust and self-confidence in order to make healthy decisions, encourage leadership skills, and independent thinking, and to have fun!

#### School-Based

The school-Based Mentoring Program provides children/youth in grades 2-8 with a role model, a friend and someone to share their experiences with. For 1 hour a week, Mentors meet with their mentee during the school day, and engage in activities such as board games, arts & crafts, sports, reading, or just spending time together.

#### Teen Mentoring

The Teen Mentoring program matches High School students in grades 9-12 with children ages 6-12 from the BGC North Simcoe Afterschool Program. Teen mentors meet one-to-one with an assigned mentee and participate in games, activities, crafts, conversation, and goal setting for one hour a week from October until the end of the school year.



Programs marked with this symbol can be partnered with BGC North Simcoe thanks to our shared Grow Grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation

## Discount List

Thank you to the businesses that offer discounts to BBBSNS matches

Subway on King St, Harvey's, Pita Pit, McDonalds, Dairy Queen, Wye Marsh Wild Life Centre, Blue Mountain Scenic Caves, Rounds Ranch, Alpha Strike Gaming, Wasaga 500 Go Karts, Creative Café, Royal Ontario Museum.

## PROGRAMS

**"Regularly the students would be at the office waiting for their mentor to arrive. Meeting with their mentor is one thing they never forgot"- School Liaison in regard to our School-Based Program**



**"Parent shared that Big has been such a great role-model, and has made a huge impact on her son, throughout the last few years they have been matched. Little shared that things have been going well, and that " I have got really attached to him" and would like to continue the match. Parent shared that Big is such a great young positive support for her son, and how her conversations with Big Brother have been nothing but open and respectful."-Mentoring Coordinators match notes**



# PROGRAMS

## Group

**Go Girls!- Virtual & In-person**

**Big Bunch**

**\*New Game On!- Hybrid**

### Go Girls!

The Go Girls! Group program helps female identifying youth aged 11-14 who are going through this pivotal stage in their life navigate life, relationships, understanding themselves, and view on having a balanced lifestyle.



### Game On!

Game On! is a group program for male-identifying youth in the North Simcoe community looking to build healthy friendships, learn new life skills, and get a better understanding of what a balanced/healthy lifestyle looks like.



### Big Bunch

The Big Bunch Program is available for Littles who are waiting for their Big, as well as an additional activity for our matches to enjoy together. This fun and friendly group program offers volunteers a unique opportunity to interact with other Bigs and Littles. This program runs monthly for 2-4 Hours. Potential matches are often formed during these events.



Programs marked with this symbol can be partnered with BGC North Simcoe thanks to our shared Grow Grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation

## Community Partners

Huge thank you to our community partners who volunteered their time to teach our group programs about important life skills!

Deanna Palazzo, Dionne Thomson, Stephanie Butler, Jo Mazgay, Amanda Gazzola, Cynthia McQueen, Jessie Montague, Melanie Linkletter, Lauren Labrie, Erin Chapelle, Lisa Harpell, Forrest Willet, Mitch Akerman, Jamie Dazell



## PROGRAMS

**"Just want to say a big thanks to you, the mentors... and the team at BBBS of North Simcoe for the opportunity given to my kids to participate in the Game on program. The kids loved and enjoyed every time they spent on this program and wished it never ended"- Guardian of a Game On participant**



**Do you have any recommendations or changes that would make Go Girls better?**

**"It was awesome! No changes I would make"- Go Girls participant**

## PROGRAMS

### Big Bunch Highlights

Big Bunches are held every month except July and August. Here are some highlights for the 2021/22 year.

#### September Big Bunch- BBBS Month Celebration

BBBS Month Celebration. First, In-Person Big Bunch since the Covid –19 pandemic began. Bigs and Littles took part in a game of soccer baseball, inflatable sports games, and minute to win it games. Great way to welcome everyone back!



#### December Big Bunch- Christmas Drive-Thru/Virtual Party

Gifts provided to our Littles from Rock 95, as well as hot chocolate and goodies from Tim Hortons. Virtual party consisted of a craft facilitated by one of our littles, an appearance from Santa, Kahoot Trivia facilitated by Jennifer Richardson.



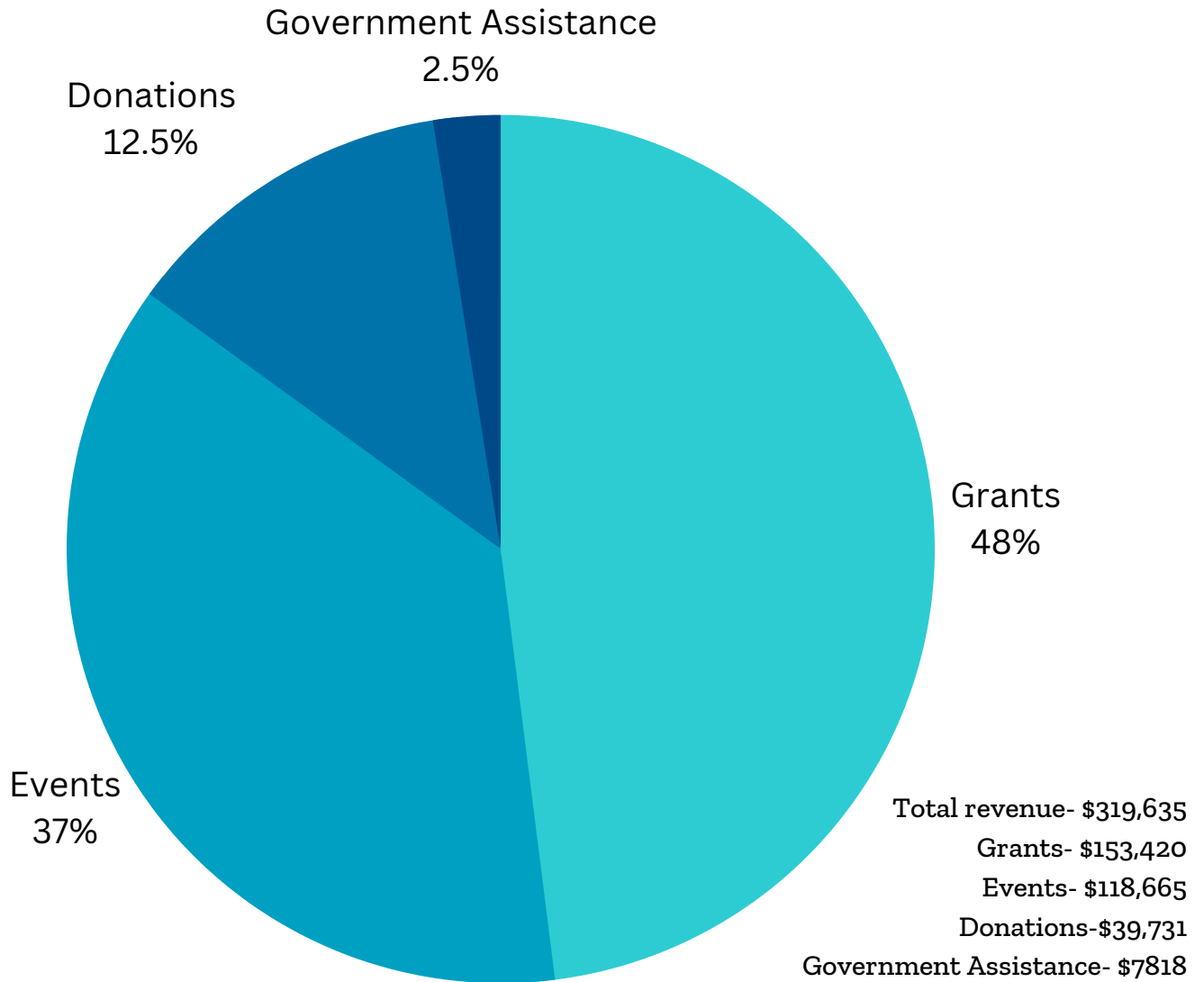
#### February Big Bunch- Outdoor Skating/Winter Activities

Both Bigs and Littles were able to enjoy an afternoon skating and playing in the snow.





# SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OPERATIONS



This fiscal year was one of ensuring that we were able to sustain our programs and continue to operate at a financial advantage.

While the budget approved was one of a deficit nature we were able to end the year with an excess of 11,017.

As we head into the most uncertain period after the COVID Pandemic, government supports and a period of high inflation we remain optimistic that through funding opportunities, fundraising events and donations from community, individuals and sponsors that we can together be successful in providing the essential mentoring programs for our youth in North Simcoe





## MEET THE TEAM

### 2021-2022 Board of Directors

Susan Inrig, **President**

Robert Gow, **Vice-President**

Michelle McKerness, **Treasurer**

Judy Bales, **Secretary**

Wanda Hamelin, **Director**

Susan Wiggins, **Director**

Cindy McQuirter - Fairley, **Director**

Christine VanderWeg, **Director**

Joshua Thon, **Director**

### 2021-2022 Staff

JoAnn Stephan, **Executive Director**

Haylie Taylor, **Fundraising & Community  
Development Coordinator**

LeeAnne Addley, **Mentoring Coordinator**

Asia Thompson, **Mentoring Coordinator**

## 2023 EVENTS

Showcase of Homes Tour

MegaBike

Bowl for Kids Sake

Holiday Survivor



## CONNECT WITH US

Facebook, Instagram and Twitter-  
@BBBSNS

TikTok-  
@bbbs.northsimcoe

Phone-  
705-526-5051

Address-  
366 Midland Ave, Suite E-3, Midland, ON L4R3k7

Linktree-

