Big Brothers Big Sisters
OF NORTH SIMCOE



ANNUAL REPORT 2025-2026

MAKING AN IMPACT

IMPACT

IMPACT

IMPACT

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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

BBBS acknowledges that we are here today in the traditional homelands of many nations and now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit, and Metis people. This land is also home to many of our animal and plant relations as well as our sacred waters. The heart of Georgian Bay has been an important homeland to, and gathering place for, Indigenous people for thousands of years. This is the traditional and Treaty territory of the Anishinabek people, now known as the Chippewa Tri- Council comprising Beausoleil First Nation, Rama First Nation and Georgina Island First Nation. This territory is within the pre confederation Treaty 5 and Treaty 16 and included within the Williams Treaties of 1923. We are committed to building pathways towards Reconciliation by learning and honouring Indigenous history and culture.

We will strive to unify the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. We will identify the gaps in the services we provide and pledge to work towards equality, while serving the children and youth with respect, compassion, understanding and empathy without prejudice or racism.

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.

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



As I write this year's summary, I find myself reflecting on how much Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Simcoe has grown and evolved over the years. This past July marked my 10th anniversary as Executive Director. Ten years provides an opportunity to reflect on where we started, how far we have come, and the many people who have helped shape the organization we are today.

What has remained constant is our belief that every young person deserves the opportunity to reach their full potential and that even one consistent, caring adult in their corner can make a meaningful difference.

As we look ahead, our priorities remain clear. We will continue to operationalize our strategic plan, focusing on sustainable growth, expanding volunteer recruitment and strengthening the supports we provide to youth. We will also continue building partnerships across North Simcoe, exploring opportunities to collaborate, share resources and amplify our collective impact.

We do not do this work alone. Schools, businesses, service organizations, funders, donors and community partners help us reach young people where they are. Our volunteers make room in their lives to be caring, consistent mentors. Our Board provides thoughtful stewardship, and our staff bring extraordinary commitment to work that often happens behind the scenes.

To every young person and family who places their trust in us, thank you. To every mentor who returns week after week, and to every person and organization that gives, partners, advocates or opens a door, thank you. You are part of every relationship we support.

The need for mentoring continues to grow. More families, schools and community partners recognize the value of supportive relationships in a young person's life. While this reinforces the importance of our work, it also reminds us of the responsibility we carry. Behind every name on a waiting list is a young person waiting for an opportunity, a connection and someone who believes in them.

Meeting this growing need requires more than good intentions. It takes people, resources, thoughtful planning and a commitment to supporting relationships not only as they begin, but as they grow and thrive. As a registered charity without sustainable operational funding, we continue to balance increasing community needs with the resources available. The support of our donors, funders, volunteers and community partners is therefore more important than ever.

Over the years, I have come to appreciate that growth is measured by more than the number of programs delivered or young people served. It is reflected in the strength of our partnerships, the confidence of a young person discovering their potential, the dedication of a volunteer who makes mentoring part of their life, and a community willing to come together to make a difference.

The year ahead will ask us to keep building, listening and finding new ways to respond. Hope is not abstract in our work. It looks like a young person beginning to believe in themselves, a mentor returning next week and a community choosing, together, to keep showing up.

As I look ahead to another year, I remain incredibly proud of this agency, the people behind it and the communities we serve. There is still much work to do, but there is also so much possibility.

JoAnn Stephan
Executive Director

MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR



"The single most common factor for children who develop resilience is at least one stable and committed relationship with a supportive parent, caregiver, or other adult."
– CENTER ON THE DEVELOPING CHILD AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

At the heart of our work is a simple belief: a consistent, caring relationship can make a lasting difference in a young person's life. As Chair of Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Simcoe, I am grateful to everyone who helps put that belief into action.

Commitment comes in many forms: mentors giving their time, donors providing financial support, community members advocating for young people and raising awareness of the importance of mentoring, and partners connecting us with new opportunities. Together with the dedication of our staff and the leadership of our board, these contributions make our work possible.

This year, we maintained our independence rather than amalgamating with Barrie and Orillia, continuing as a strong independent organization dedicated to serving North Simcoe. As a board, we provide guidance and support to our staff while focusing on long-term sustainability, strategic planning, and strong leadership.

Financial support remains essential to sustaining our mentoring programs. We ask those who can consider donating or connecting us with potential supporters.

Our organization moves forward because people care—and because they put that care into action. Our mentors, families, staff, donors, partners, and board members each bring something different. Together, we create opportunities that none of us could create alone.

On behalf of the board, I extend my sincere thanks to everyone who supports Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Simcoe. Your generosity, dedication, and belief in young people give purpose to our work. As we look ahead, we remain committed to building meaningful connections and helping young people recognize their own potential.

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." **– DR. SEUSS, THE LORAX**

Christine Vandereweg,
Board Chair

DEVELOPMENTAL RELATIONSHIPS FRAMEWORK

Young people are more likely to grow up successfully when they experience Developmental Relationships with important people in their lives. Developmental relationships are close connections through which young people discover who they are, cultivate abilities to shape their own lives, and learn how to engage with and contribute to the world around them. There are 5 elements and 20 specific actions that make relationships powerful in young people's lives.

Through this framework, we ask youth (Littles), mentors (Bigs), and parents/guardians to reflect on five key elements of a strong developmental relationship:

EXPRESS CARE

Show me that I matter to you

CHALLENGE GROWTH

Push me to keep getting better

PROVIDE SUPPORT

Help me complete tasks & achieve goals

SHARE POWER

Treat me with respect give me a say

EXPAND POSSIBILITIES

Connect me with people & places that broaden my world

Data Collection

The following information was collected during match support conversations in alignment with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada's National Standards. These ongoing check-ins ensure consistency, quality, and impact across all mentoring relationships.

MENTEE

95% of youth felt that their mentors shared power

66% of youth felt that their mentors expanded their possibilities

93% of youth felt that their mentors provided support

95% of youth felt that their mentors challenged their growth

100% of youth felt that their mentors expressed care.

MENTOR

85% of mentors felt that they shared power with their mentee

74% of mentors felt that they expanded possibilities for their mentee

70% of mentors felt that they provided support for their mentees

79% of mentors felt that they challenged their mentees growth

96% of mentors felt that they expressed care for their mentees.

ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES

96% of youth in our agency report parental separation or divorce

60% of youth in our agency have experienced bullying

60% of youth in our agency report experiencing social isolation

55% of youth in our agency reported they are coping with mental illness

72% of youth in our agency have involvement with Child Welfare

54% of youth in our agency reported a household member has experienced mental illness

60% of youth in our agency have reported exposure to financial stress

66% have experienced the death or terminal illness of someone close to them

Based on number of guardians who completed the needs registry.

PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE

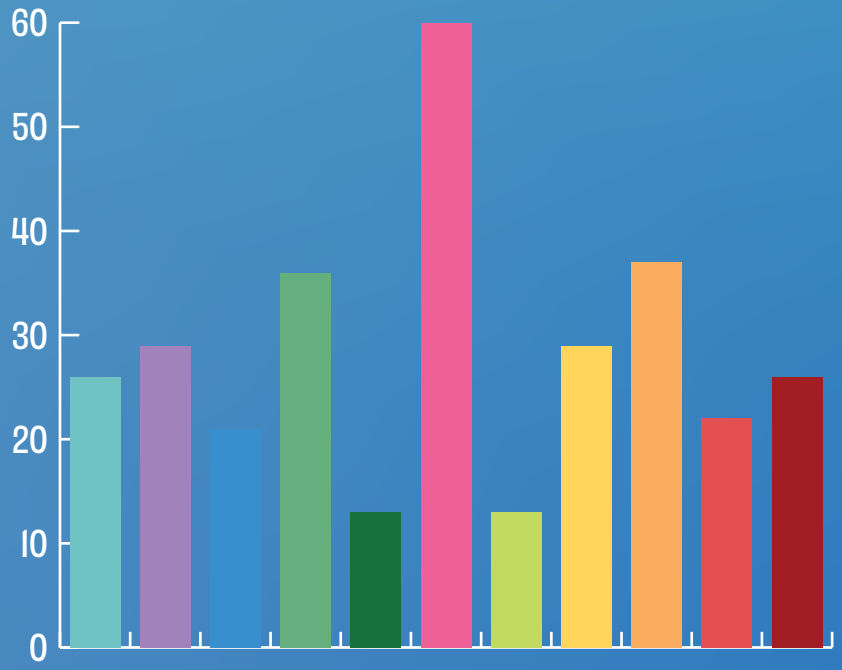
1-1 COMMUNITY MENTORING PROGRAM
31 MATCHES

IN-SCHOOL MENTORING PROGRAM
33 MATCHES

GO GIRLS
12
PARTICIPANTS

GAME ON!
11
PARTICIPANTS

BIG BUNCH GROUP MENTORING OUTINGS
336 TOTAL PARTICIPANTS



- June 2025 – Drumming – 26 participants
- July 2025 – Sailing - 29 participants
- September 2025 - Lawn Bowling – 21 participants
- October 2025 - Halloween Activities – 36 participants
- December 2025 - Elmvale Parade – 13 participants
- January 2026 - Holiday Party – 60 participants
- February 2026 - Skating – 13 participants
- March 2026 - Maple Syrup – 29 participants
- April 2026 - Bowling - 37 participants
- April 2026 - National Canadian Film Day - 22 participants
- May 2026 - Portrait making- 26 participants



72
ACTIVE BIGS

52 BIG INQUIRIES
44 LITTLE INQUIRIES



8 SCHOOLS SERVED WITH IN-SCHOOL MENTORING

BAYVIEW | MUNDY'S BAY | HILLSDALE | WYEVALE CENTRAL
TAY SHORES | JAMES KEATING | HURON PARK | HURONIA CENTENNIAL

CAMPS

15
SPONSORED CAMPS WERE ATTENDED

WOW ACTIVITIES

6 PARTICIPANTS | CIRQUE DU SOLEIL
2 PARTICIPANTS | GO-KARTING
2 PARTICIPANTS | TRAIL HORSEBACK RIDING
8 PARTICIPANTS | TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS GAMES



TORONTO BLUE JAYS
SUITE DONATION
20 PARTICIPANTS

MATCH ANNIVERSARIES
(OVER 2 YEARS)

LISA & ELLA	JUDY & LEAH
CALEB & ADAM	JORDAN & WYATT
RACHEL & NADIA	PAUL & GRADY
LOIS & EMMA	DANIELLE & ISABELLE
CINDY & SKY	MICK & KADEN
JEFFREY & DALLIN	

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION
(OVER 5 YEARS)

JASON H.	CALEB G.
CINDY MF.	LISA T.
JUSTIN J.	CANDON JS.
COLEEN DH.	SUSAN W.
JUDY B.	RICHARD M .

FUNDRAISING IMPACT



Rotary Club of Midland Funding $5,000

BBBS North Simcoe was invited to attended the Spring Fireside Chat for the Midland Rotary Club. Our ask focused on Enriching the Match Experience. With our current 1:1 Matches it is not always easy to do everything they plan as a match due to rising costs . This funding will allow for an enhanced experience of focused activity that is personalized and chosen by the match.



Brian Huma Boat Cruise $1,200

Brian is one of our Big Brothers and chose to support Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Simcoe as part of his Customer Appreciation Boat Cruise. A great night was had with the opportunity to create community awareness and enjoy our beautiful Georgian Bay.



North Simcoe Rotaract Butter Tart Trot $7,580

The Rotaract club once again chose our agency to be the recipient of their 2026 Butter Tart Trot. The funds will be used for a pilot project called Full Plates, Brighter Future. The project will include opportunities for food safety certification, meal planning, budgeting and food delivery to our families.



Tim Horton's Smile Cookie Campaign $27,360

We were fortunate to be chosen for the Waubashene and Port Severn Tim Horton's location for the Smile Cookie spring campaign. Many volunteers supported this initiative with cookie decorating, drive through donations and deliveries to our community that supported us. The funds raised were targeted to increase our community awareness and attract volunteer mentors.

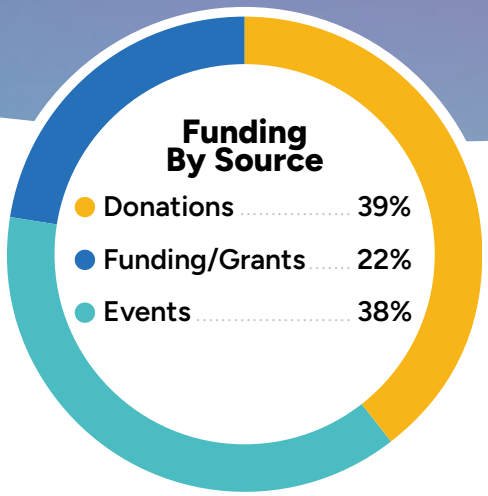


GBay Gals Give 2026 Spring Funds $24,325

This was our year! The GB Gals Give chose our agency for their 2026 Spring Event. The funds raised were to train and support our Bigs, Littles and families. With an increase in the number of mentors and our waitlist growing, we were grateful for their support.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	2026	2025
Revenues	$325,741	$403,286
Expenses	$385,814	$414,981
(Deficit)/Excess	($21,273)	($11,695)
Increases	Compared to 2025, revenues declined by 19.23%, while expenses decreased by 7.03%. The reduction in revenue exceeded the reduction in expenses, highlighting the ongoing need to monitor operational costs and strengthen sustainable revenue sources.	



Funding Grants: $73,215.00
Events: $123,208.00
Donations: $129,318.00
Assets: $306,629.00
Liabilities: $38,437.00

Almost 78% of BBBS North Simcoe's revenue comes from events and donations, highlighting the importance of continued community fundraising and donor development.

Leadership Team



JoAnn Stephan
Executive Director



Haylie Taylor
Fundraising & Community Development Coordinator



LeeAnne Addley
Program Manager

Board of Directors



Christine Vanderweg
Board Chair



Wanda Hamelin
Director



Hunter Markle
Director

Jenna Marnoch
Treasurer



Judy Bales
Director

Amy Beauchamp
Director



Susan Wiggins
Secretary



Cindy McQuirter-Fairley
Director

COMMUNITY & CORPORATE SUPPORT

The strength of our work is rooted in the generosity of the community around us. Each grant, sponsorship, and donation, whether large or small, helps ensure that young people in our area have access to the mentors and programs that ignite their potential. We are deeply grateful to the community partners, corporate supporters, and donors whose commitment makes our impact possible year after year.

Major Grants & Community Partners

Air Canada
Belanger Aluminium
Cailey Family Foundation
Delta Bingo & Gaming
D Solly Dentistry
For Sale on Georgian Bay
Heart of Georgian Bay Community Forward Fund
Huronia Community Foundation
Ministry of Education
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Penetanguishene Lions
Rotary Club of Midland
Rotaract Butter Tart Trot
Team Jordan
Telus Friendly Futures Foundation
Township of Tiny
Walmart Community Grant
Weber Community Foundation

2024/2025 Annual Sponsors

Canadian Tire
Charles Morden Construction
Georgian Bay Reinforcement Fabrics
HGR Graham Partners LLP
LabX Media
McDonalds
Midland Midas
NT Power
Monica McCready
Service Master Midland/Orillia
Todd Lalonde Insurance

Third Party Donors

GB Gals Give
Sheldon East Jewellers Ring Buffing
Sunday Restoration
Hillsdale Firefighters
Tim Horton's Smile Cookie
Harveys Give Back Event
Boathouse Eatery Give Back Event

Sponsors

Adam Chambers
A.N.T Homes
Compass Group Canada
Dillon's Woodfired Pizza
Eagle Eye Bookkeeping
Elcan
Elmvale Lions Club
Fred Hook Ltd.
FSOGB
Forum Athletic INC
Gionet Fairley Woods LLP
Hardship Acres Landscaping
Huronia Alarms
Jeannotte's Painting
Kevin Ellis Realty
Lindsay Schultz Kitchens & Cabinetry
Lynn-Stone Funeral Homes Inc
Midland Home Hardware
Nonover INC.
Marc's Auto
Midland Toyota
Ouellet & Associates
Pulse Nutrition
Penetanguishene Lions
Perkinsfield Rustic Furniture and Custom Kitchens
Ray's Tree Service
Scotia Bank
Sharelle McArthur - The Big Insurance
Simcoe Welding & Design
Simply Country
Sunlife - Roberta Courtemanche
Swoop Fibre
Team Hawke
Templeton Windows
Tiny Township Lions

Sponsors (Continued)

Tom Smith Chevrolet
Triple Tech Heating, Air Condition & Refrigeration Inc.
Willet's Holdings
Walker's Electric

Monthly Donors

Crys Wiltshire
Hunter Markle
Judy Goode
Michelle McKerness

Donors

Allen's No Frills
Barbra Evens
Bill Hardy
Bradstreet Family Foundation
Brian Millar
Britt McKerrow
Candice Sicairi
Carol Hartwell
Cathy Tait
Charlie George
Christina Wood-Horton
Christine Baguley
Currie Truck Centre
Debra Walker
Four Corners Tea Room
Greg Rice
James Anderson
James Laplante
Jamie Hinton
Jeff Bumstead
Jennifer Annis
Jennifer MacMenemey
Jen Varty
Jerry Van Dyk
Jeffrey Halloway
Judy and Barry Goode
Kelly Earle
Knights of Columbus
Leo Parent
Let Me Be Frank
Lindsay Scott
Lisa Weyman
Louise Zoschke
Mark Jarick
Marline Veater
Mary Huny
Mary Skinner
Maureen Taylor
Murry Truax
Michelle Anthony
Murray Van Halem
Nancy Yip
Pat and John Buchan
Robert Laurin
Sara Lankshear
Scott Fairley
Sheila Burk
Tutkaluke Realty
Victoria Harbour Lions Club
The Y's Men's Club











Big Brothers
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OF NORTH SIMCOE

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