





# 2020

# ANNUAL REPORT



















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We started 2020 with certain assumptions about the year ahead, all built on an understanding of how our agency worked. How our community worked. How the world worked. But in March, those assumptions dissolved, as did our charted course.

While we felt a significant impact to our agency, it paled in comparison to the impact felt by our families. A month into the pandemic, we learned that 44% of our parents were struggling to maintain their food supply, 56% were concerned about paying their bills, and a staggering 70% were laid off or working reduced hours. Our families were disproportionately feeling the weight of the crisis, and we needed to act. So, we got to work doing what we always do: using one-to-one relationships to make a difference.

We increased our Match Support contacts with parents, focusing our conversations less on mentorship and more on basic needs. We connected them with vital resources, made food deliveries, provided direct financial relief to families in crisis, and distributed activities for Littles to use at home. But beyond this effort, we worked with Bigs to develop strategies for Matches to stay connected while apart, and reduce the devastating isolation thrust upon our Littles. Our work paid off--84% of the Matches who were together at the start of the pandemic are still together in 2021.

Despite the challenges we faced, we take pride in what our team has accomplished. We launched a Virtual School Friends program, which will be an asset to our agency moving forward. Our redesigned Community-Based program kept our Matches alive with online mentoring. And we're coming out of this year structurally and financially sound, positioned to grow and accelerate our work.

To our supporters--thanks for your loyalty, your service, your investment, and your eagerness to build community alongside us. Your generosity fuels our work today, and powers a brighter tomorrow.

Sincerely,



Sandy Morales
Chief Executive Officer



Cedric Ellis
2020 Board President

# MENTORING AND BEYOND: BUILDING COMMUNITY IN 2020





# OUR AGENCY PROVIDED:

- 364 food pantry deliveries to families without transportation
- \$15,000 to 95 families to help with pressing financial needs
- 400+ backpacks and school supply kits to Littles in our program and on our waitlist
- 700 BBBS masks to Bigs and Littles
- Presents and gift cards to 150+ Littles and their families at the holidays

# **OUR ACHIEVEMENTS:**

- 5,851 meaningful Match Support conversations with Bigs, Littles, and Parents
- 84% of Community-Based Matches stayed together through 2020
- Nearly 100 interviews conducted with future Bigs
- Piloted our new Virtual School Friends program with 16 Matches
- Created a Virtual Activity Toolkit to help Matches stay connected while apart





"The food deliveries have helped our family tremendously. We really appreciate the work and support from BBBS."

--Kristin Gilbertson, parent to a Little

# OUR LITTLES IN 2020

White - 12% Black or African American - 57% Asian - 2% Hispanic or Latinx - 21%

American Indian or

Alaska Native - 1% Other - 7%

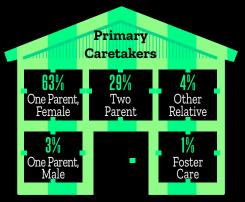






of our Littles are between the ages of 10-14





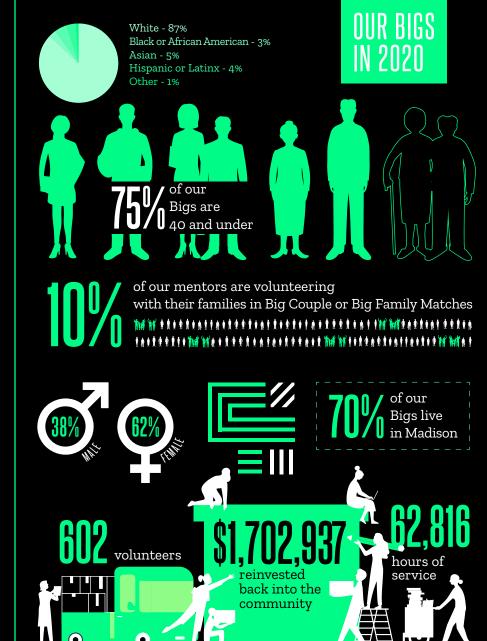












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# **EDUCATION:**



83% of Littles maintained or improved their grades

86% of Littles had higher educational expectations for their future

# COMMUNITY



86% of Littles got along better with their parents

88% of Littles had an adult in their life beyond their parent/quardian that they can count on

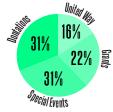
# PERSONAL BEHAVIOR:



88% of Littles had positive peer relationships

96% of Littles avoided risky behaviors involving school mishehavior and bullying





**EXPENSES:** \$1,159,159



# **OUR LEADERSHIP**

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'I am so blessed to have Christy as a Big Sister. She has helped me from looking at my scholarship papers to helping me write my resume. She has always been there if I need help in any way, I know that if I call her at any time she will be there for me. I can't wait to see what the future has for our relationship." -Little Sister Victoria

## MANAGEMENT TEAM

Sandy Morales Chief Executive Officer

Simon Gott Match Support Manager

Joel Gove

Enrollment & Matching Manager

### **Casey Kimmel**

Director of Philanthropy

Jill Wood

Director of Development





# Think Big. Give Big. Be a Big.





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**BBBSMADISON.ORG** 











"Reette has become such an important part of my family. I have no doubt she will continue to be an integral part of my life for many years to come. I truly can't imagine where I would be today had I not been matched with Reette."

—Big Sister Elizabeth







