



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters®**

OF BATH/BRUNSWICK

ANNUAL REPORT

2021



Jay & Ashley

2021 YEAR IN REVIEW



We know young people are full of potential and capable of great resilience. We also acknowledge the challenges and adversities faced by young people today. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to adversely affect youth in America. A CDC survey of high school students in 2021 revealed that 37% experienced poor mental health during COVID-19.

In the very beginning of the pandemic, BBBS of Bath/Brunswick quickly transitioned to virtual programming and partnered with community organizations to provide services and essential necessities to matches and families. This expansion of innovations was sustained in 2021 as staff continued to adapt to an ever-changing landscape in our community, supporting matches both virtually and in-person to reach those most in need of support. And still, many more of our community's children were waiting to be matched with the right Big.

The effort for "80 Big Futures" began during the summer of 2021 with a generous \$40,000 matching challenge grant from businesses and community members that allowed all donations through August to double their impact. The effort raised a total of \$80,000 with the help of our supportive community.

As we continue to rise to the challenges our most vulnerable community members face, our professional staff is working individually with each child, volunteer, and family to meet their needs. We are also looking forward to reopening our continued partnerships with area schools where we have provided programs.

It is of critical importance that youth continue in their professionally supported matches with their Big Brothers and Sisters and that we find the right volunteer to match with each child that is waiting for a mentor. While the influx of funding from the 80 Big Futures Fund helped keep us on track, we are still facing challenging times ahead.

As an agency, we will continue to find creative ways to meet the needs of our Littles and foster the important relationships necessary to their success.

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BIG & LITTLE OF THE YEAR



Pheonix was an eight-year-old in the third grade when he was matched with Sue through Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bath/Brunswick's School-Based program.

Sue agreed to commit an hour weekly to mentor him and began meeting with her Little during lunch and recess.

Pheonix says that he was initially hesitant because he wasn't very trusting toward others. He was in foster care at the time and had experienced loss and instability in his life. But, he decided it would be good to try something new, and Sue was there every week to eat lunch, do activities, and talk.

"Wednesdays became the day I could look forward to because there was someone there who would enjoy doing what I enjoyed and who didn't judge me," says Pheonix. "I can tell you that when I first met Sue, I had a lack of sharing with people. I didn't want to be around anyone; I wanted to be by myself and do my own thing. Now, when I think about the people I care about, Sue comes to mind first."



Pheonix & Sue

Pheonix and Sue shared weekly visits at school for three years. When Pheonix finished fifth grade, they decided to transition to the Community-Based program to do activities outside the school setting. Pheonix was living with his father at the time, who appreciated the consistent relationship Pheonix shared with Sue and was supportive of the opportunity for Pheonix to get out and do things in the community.

Throughout middle and high school, Pheonix and Sue explored many interests and experiences, including remote control boats on Nequasset Lake, cooking meals in the microwave (as Pheonix wasn't permitted to use the stove and was often home alone at mealtimes), and running together. The duo participated in at least a half dozen 5K races, including "The Murph" five-mile trail run in Bath and the "Insane Inflatable Race" in Portland. They also spent time taking photos. They would go to places like Reid State Park, climb on the rocks, take pictures, and then edit them on Sue's computer.

"Pheonix has a creative way of thinking about things," says Sue. "He learns by doing things. He is very ambitious in what he wants to accomplish. He has ideas about what he wants to do and figures out what he needs and how to execute it."

For the past few years, Pheonix has lived with his mother. He graduated from high school in the summer and is working and considering his career path. He and Sue continue to meet regularly. These days, they eat ice cream, talk, laugh, reflect on the past, and talk about the future.

FINANCIAL DATA

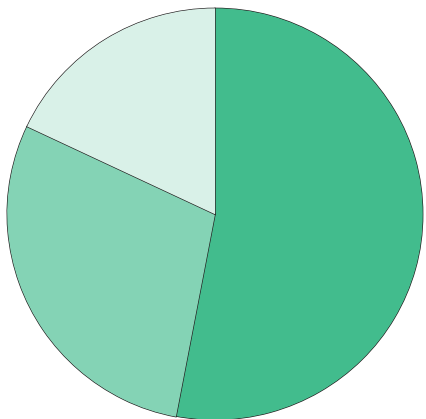
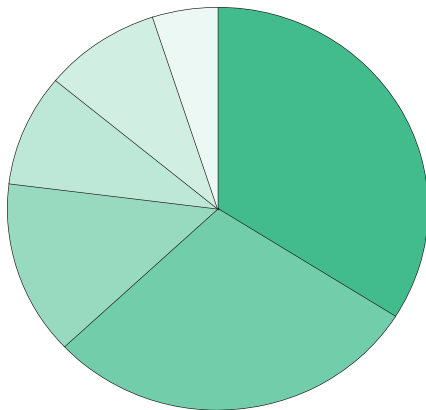


REVENUE AND EXPENSES

Revenue	\$355,499
Expenses	\$284,436
Net Income	\$71,063

MISSION

Our mission is to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth.



BALANCE SHEET

Assets

Current Assets	\$176,188
Property & Equipment	\$2,867
Total Assets	\$179,055

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$2,441
Accrued Expenses	\$3,871
Total Liabilities	\$6,282

Net Assets

Without Donor Restrictions	\$168,585
With Donor Restrictions	\$4,188
Total Net Assets	\$172,773

Total Net Assets & Liabilities	\$179,055
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REVENUE SOURCES

Individual Donations	\$119,334
Events	\$103,603
Foundations & Grants	\$48,463
In-Kind Income	\$33,333
Paycheck Protection Program	\$30,653
Other	\$20,113
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	\$19,177
Total Revenue	\$355,499

EXPENSES BY FUNCTION

Programming	\$150,873
Fundraising	\$83,029
General	\$50,534
Total Expenses	\$284,436

Our 2021 IMPACT



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bath/Brunswick programs continue to have a tremendous impact on the youth we serve. During a year of continued social distancing, our Bigs provided their Littles with stability and connection and a consistency that was needed now more than ever before.

- We served **117 youth** between ages 6-18 and their families through Community and Site-Based Programs and supported an equal number of Big Brother/Sister volunteers
- We provided 5 School-Based Mentoring programs **to local elementary and middle schools**
- Approximately **7,800 hours of volunteer service** was completed through our programs in 2021

BBBS reported the following observations of Littles that stayed connected to a Big during 2021:

- 96% of Littles are confident they can **say no to drugs, violence, and skipping school**
- 84% of Littles **have better grades, academic goals, and confidence**
- 95% of Littles **feel like they belong**

▶ Sue and Phoenix...Continued from page 2.

"We talk about what is going on in his life and help him get clear in his thinking," says Sue. "My question a lot recently has been, 'Okay, so what is your plan? I understand what you've said and the frustrations you have, but what is your plan moving forward? What actions are you going to take?'"

Pheonix says that having Sue's perspective helps him better understand other people's ideas and accept their opinions. "Sue has been there long enough in my life to help me form the idea that it's okay to fail and pick myself back up. She encourages me and helps me come up with ideas about how to improve my situation."

Likewise, Sue says she has learned from Pheonix persistence and resilience, "About not getting discouraged or wallowing in self-pity. I have often said to myself, if Pheonix can go through what he's been through and still be hopeful and resilient, I can do that, too."

Sue identifies the role and value of the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization in their mentoring connection. "I've appreciated having staff there for support, encouragement, and reminding me that all I need to do is show up and be there. The training and education that BBBS did was really helpful, and knowing that there were resources to help me learn what I needed to know has been great."

After ten years of friendship, Pheonix says: "We've done a lot of stuff that I don't think I would have ever gotten the chance to experience if it wasn't for Sue. I've learned a lot."

This December, Sue and Pheonix were honored with the Big and Little of the Year Award at BBBS' Empower Potential Celebration and Awards.



2021 INDIVIDUAL DONORS



*BBBS Board
**BBBS Advisor
***BBBS Staff

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bath/Brunswick is a volunteer and donor-supported organization. We depend on the generosity of our community to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported relationships that have an immediate, positive, and life-lasting effect on the lives of youth ages six through young adult and their families.

We deeply appreciate the generous support of individuals and foundations who helped us defend the potential of children during our 2021 fiscal year (January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021). Individuals and organizations who have contributed \$100 or more are listed below. While every effort has been made to list the supporters accurately, errors are inevitable. If you notice an error or an omission, please contact us at 207-729-7736.

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(\$5,000 - \$9,999)

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(\$1,000 - \$4,999)

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Foundation Matching Gifts
The Benevity Community
Impact Fund
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by its agent, YourCause
Fidelity Charitable
Maine Community Foundation



Stosh & Jerry

2021 CORPORATE SUPPORT

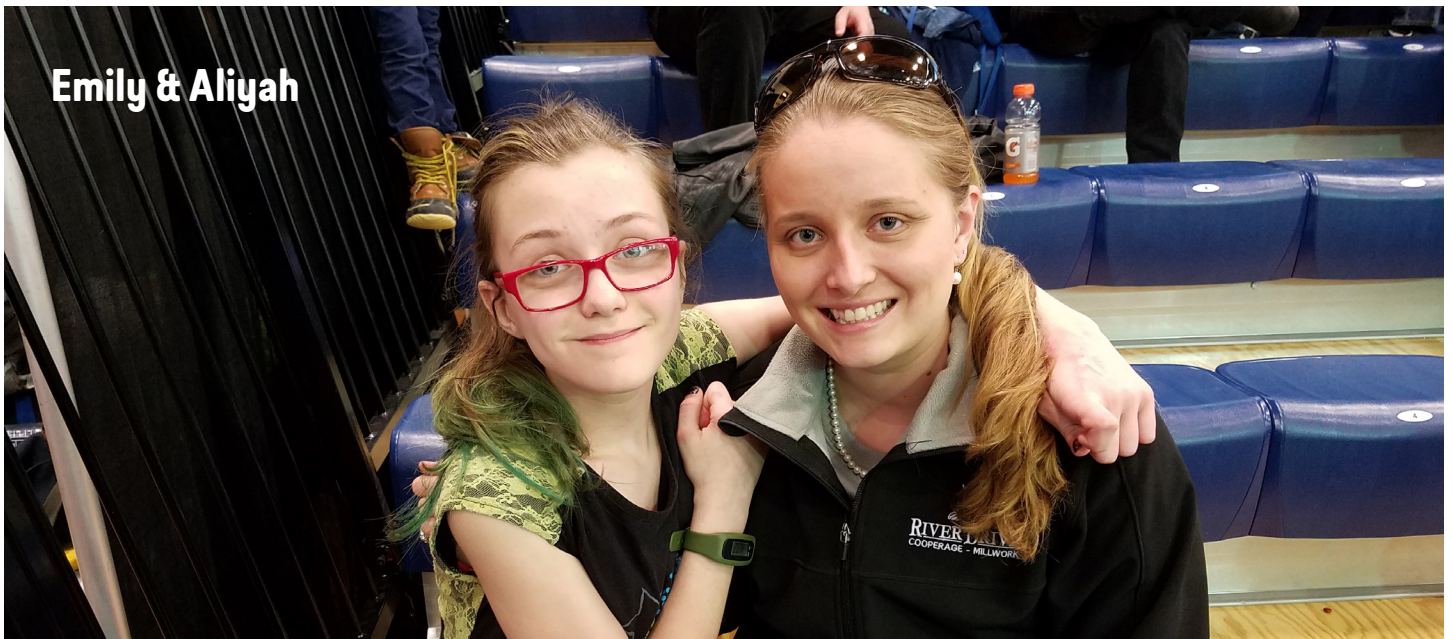


Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bath/Brunswick is fortunate to have strong support from locally-owned and regional businesses and organizations. Through the generous financial support of the following corporate partners we are able to provide our programs and services, allowing us to ignite the potential of youth in our community.

AAA Northern New England
Albin, Randall & Bennett
Associated Appraisers of Maine, Inc.
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Bar Harbor Bank & Trust
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Little Sister Kaylin



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Amy Liechty, *Administrative/Fundraising Assistant*

Lindsey Reed, *Program Manager*



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