

BBBS NEWS 2·0·0·8



Summer 2008



Dear Friends,

First, I want to thank you for your continued support of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities (BBBS). Because of the warm and generous spirit of our donors, volunteers and advocates, BBBS is building a stronger society – one child at a time.

I cannot stress enough how important the role each of you plays in this endeavor is. Whether you support us financially, or you give our Little Brothers and Sisters your time and expertise, or you advocate on our behalf throughout your professional and personal networks, your efforts are making a BIG difference in our 11-county service area.

This past spring, we kicked off our first ever alumni fundraising campaign. We are challenging current and alumni Bigs and alumni Littles to raise \$24,000, the amount needed to support 20 matches for a year. The money will be used for Big Brothers and Sisters' orientation and training, processing applications, matching Little Brothers and Sisters with mentors, providing information packets and supporting our matches. To date, we are about one-quarter of the way to our goal. If you are a current Big Brother or Sister or a BBBS program alumni, call today to pledge your support.

This coming fall, we will begin a comprehensive advocacy project in order to raise public awareness and generate government support for BBBS' mentoring programs. Specifically, we will focus on securing government funding for mentoring an especially vulnerable population of children—those who have a parent or significant family member who is under some form of incarceration or supervision.

And, as always, we continue to engage volunteer mentors who will give a few hours a month to spend quality time with a young person. Join us on November 21, 2008, at the Metropolitan Ballroom in Minneapolis to celebrate our volunteers and supporters. We have a special guest this year. Hill Harper, national BBBS spokesman and star of television drama, *CSI: NY*, will deliver the keynote address. To learn more, please see the "Save the Date" information on the back page.

Finally, I end this letter with great news! We are so proud of our efforts to provide educational and career resources to our graduating Little Brothers and Sisters and our High School Big Brothers and Sisters, and I am very excited to report that, this year, 59 students have been granted scholarships for post-secondary education. I encourage everyone who knows a young person in our program to contact Willy Tully, our Education and Enrichment Activities Coordinator, to get him/her started on the path to pursuing education or training beyond high school.

Together we are painting a brighter future for our children, our communities and our state.

Sincerely,

Gloria C. Lewis
President and CEO
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities

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You can help!

Did you know that you can make donations of stock and appreciated assets to BBBS? You can even name BBBS as the beneficiary of your insurance policy! There are a variety of planned giving and bequest arrangements that are available to help perpetuate support for the services BBBS provides. Look for further deals about the new BBBS Planned Giving Campaign in the coming months.



Wish List

- 800 new Big Brothers and Sisters
- Volunteers to share their time and skills
- Auction items for BBBS events
- Ticket donations for local events
- Pro bono Web Designer
- Funding for match activities
- Marketing, Graphic Design & Development interns

BIGS for KIDS Challenge!



BBBS is excited to announce the Bigs for Kids Challenge! To help achieve our vision of providing a mentor to every young person who wants or needs one, we are challenging Bigs to refer 2,000 new volunteers for this fall. While this may sound daunting, each Big only has to refer one person for us to reach the goal. Of course, we want to strongly encourage the referral of more than just one person per Big, so for those people who have a competitive spirit we are offering a prize to the Community-based Big and School-based Big who refer the most volunteers! Each winner will receive two tickets to the 2009 Awards Gala, our biggest event of the year, and will be recognized in fall communications.

The Bigs for Kids Challenge will run during August and September. Referred volunteers must attend an orientation session or interview during these two months to count towards the challenge. New volunteers will need to fill out a referral card and bring it with them to orientations and interviews for tracking purposes. To get referral cards, Bigs can ask their Match Coordinator or download them from our website. There also will be extra referral cards at orientations and interviews.

Please note, High School Bigs are able to participate in this challenge. However, the challenge months for High School Bigs are September and October. The same rules apply. The High School Big who refers the most volunteers (other high school students or adults) will be able to choose between two tickets to the Gala or a night out on the town courtesy of BBBS.

BBBS would like to thank all our Bigs in advance for helping us meet our goal. With everyone's help, we are confident that we can get closer to serving more of the young people in our community who need us.

Match Spotlight: Abiye and Alex



Abiye Ketema knows the meaning of hardship. Arriving in the U.S. as a 14-year-old orphan from Ethiopia, Abiye lacked guidance for much of his young adult life. Now, as a successful adult, he strives to put his life lessons into practice as a Big Brother to 16-year-old Alex.

Abiye and Alex have similar backgrounds. "We both grew up close to our grandparents. Neither of my parents were around, so I kind of understand how that experience affects him," Abiye says. "Alex doesn't really need a lot of help. He is the type of young man who could go far with a little encouragement and guidance, and I understand exactly how to provide that to him." Abiye takes special interest in the pair's walk-and-talk sessions. "My favorite thing to do with Alex is to spend time talking about how far he could go in life while walking in a mall or at the park. I share in his passion about the things he likes to do and who he wants to be in the future."

Abiye decided to become a Big Brother as a means to provide mentorship and guidance to the younger generation. "As a youngster, I was always very ambitious and goal-oriented, but information was limited because of the lack of adult input," Abiye says. His goals of becoming successful were realized through his own determination and drive. Abiye believes that things would have been a lot easier for him had there been a mentor in his life. As a result, he is a strong advocate for reaching today's youth by engaging in life with them, instead of from a distance.

Since their match began a year ago, Abiye has noted considerable strides in Alex's openness toward him and others. He encourages Alex to take up public speaking, explaining to him that it is one of the traits of a well-rounded person. "Alex is very shy. He doesn't say much. When we first met, I was the only one who was doing the talking. Now, Alex is opening up to me," Abiye says. At a recent Board of Directors meeting, Alex spent time addressing the board on the impact that Abiye and BBBS has made in his life, moving some directors to tears. "He speaks very well in front of a group of people," Abiye says.

When Abiye decided to become a Big, he wasn't sure what difference he would be able to make in the life of a child. But the expectations he had coming into the experience have been far surpassed. "I am really happy to be a part of Alex's life, and I couldn't be more proud to call him my Little Brother. I am very excited to see him reach his dreams and goals, and I will do anything to help make that happen."

Asked about the most rewarding aspect of his time spent with Alex so far, Abiye replies with a true Big Brother response: "I love being able to impact his life. If Alex always looks forward to being around me, and I know that he is happy with all the things we do, that means the world to me. I want to be his best friend, someone he could talk to about anything. I believe if every child had the right person to talk to, someone who guides them in the right way, they would be able to make the right decisions and reach their full potential."

Parent Spotlight: Rebecca Bravo

Rebecca Bravo knows firsthand the positive impact that a mentor can have on a young person's life. When she was 11 years old, Rebecca was matched with her Big Sister, Grace. Their match officially closed when Rebecca turned 18 and graduated from high school. However, they continued to stay in contact with each other on a regular basis until a few years ago when Grace entered a convent. Even though Grace's current location makes it harder for the two to communicate, they still have a strong relationship and keep in touch by writing letters.



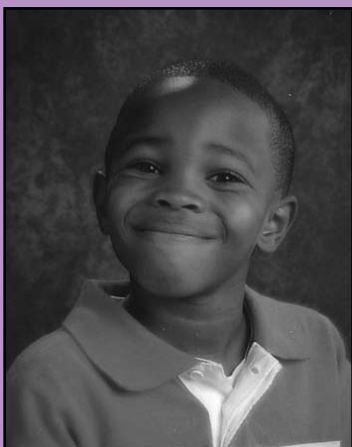
Rebecca with son, Pedro, and daughters, Gracie, left, and Victoria, right.

A mother of four, Rebecca loves to spend time with her children. In honor of her Big Sister, she named her youngest daughter Gracie. Gracie's name serves as a reminder of the powerful affect that Grace had on Rebecca's life. Rebecca notes that she was a defiant child and that her Big Sister changed her for the better. "Grace reigned me back in," Rebecca says. "Unlike my parents, Grace never told me what to do. She just steered me in the right direction." Rebecca valued Grace's opinion so highly, she always took it very seriously. During their match relationship, Rebecca and Grace enjoyed outdoor activities and playing sports. Rebecca has especially fond memories of the canoe trips they took at Lake Calhoun and the Boundary Waters.



Rebecca's son, Pedro, and his Big Brother Eric

Recently, Rebecca's 10 year-old son, Pedro, was matched with his Big Brother, Eric. When Rebecca saw the flyers at her son's school for a BBBS after-school program, she immediately enrolled him in it. According to Rebecca, Pedro does not have many good, male role models in his life, and she feels he is at the age when older males are extremely important and influential. Rebecca hopes that her son has the same positive experiences in the program that she had years ago. Most of all, Rebecca hopes that Eric will be someone Pedro can count on during his teenage years and will help steer him in the right direction.



Willie is waiting for a Big Brother!

I want a big brother because he can play basketball with me.

What's happening at BBBS...

A BIG Day on Capitol Hill

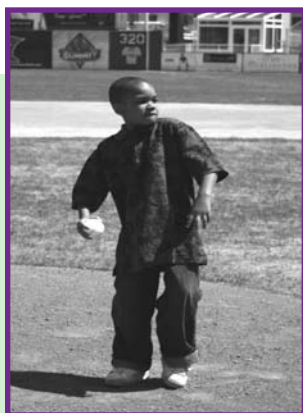
This past spring, community members witnessed a BIG Day on the Hill at the Minnesota State Capitol Rotunda. On Wednesday, March 12, more than 100 Littles, Bigs and advocates for BBBS gathered to show their support for mentoring programs. The event focused on the many benefits mentoring relationships have on young people, especially the role they play in preventing youth violence. Speakers at this year's event included Senator Linda Higgins (DFL) and Representative Augustine "Willie" Dominguez (DFL), both strong advocates for children's issues throughout their political careers. Big Brother Jim Diesing and his Little Brother, David, also shared their personal experiences at the rally. Jim described the transformation David has made from a struggling student to a confident young man. David is now a passionate volunteer and an excellent student. BBBS President and CEO, Gloria Lewis, called upon caring community members, asking them to become mentors to the young people in our communities. BBBS also took the time to thank the state legislature for their continued support of mentoring programs.



Top right: President & CEO Gloria Lewis calls the community to action.



Bottom right: Little Sister Ana shows her support for BBBS.



St. Paul Saints Game

The 13th Annual St. Paul Saints Game was held on Sunday, May 4, at Midway Stadium. The St. Paul Saints and Ed Christie of Forepaugh's Restaurant treated matches to a pre-game picnic. Little Brother KJ threw out the first pitch to start the game. More than 400 Bigs and Littles attended the event, and all were delighted by the wonderful weather, great food and exciting game. Thank you to all our sponsors for once again making this event a huge success!

Little Brother KJ winds up for the first pitch of the game!

A BIG Night at the Casino

BBBS volunteers and advocates from all over the Twin Cities area gathered on Thursday, May 15, to play casino-like games and mingle at "Big Night at the Casino." The fundraiser was a huge success, with more than 100 guests in attendance, at the Great Waters Brewing Company in Saint Paul. Professional dealers volunteered their time to instruct attendees how to play a variety of games. The Texas Hold 'Em Tournaments were a huge hit! The raffle drawing featured fabulous prizes, such as a dinner boat party for 12 on Lake Minnetonka, a weekend stay at Elbow Lake Lodge and Minnesota Twins tickets.



Dealer Tim Parrott plays blackjack with AI and Carly Grogan.

High School Bigs YOU ROCK! Awards

High School Bigs were honored at an awards ceremony held at Roseville Central Park on Saturday, May 17. Twenty-five Bigs came to compete in the BBBS Inferno Challenge Course. Students were split into teams to complete a series of mini-challenges. Once a team worked together to complete a task, they received a letter. At the end of the race, letters were unscrambled to solve a riddle. Teams that solved the riddle were entered into a drawing at the end of the evening. There were many prizes, including an IPOD® and tickets to Valleyfair, the Science Museum and the movie theater. After the games, participants were able to enjoy grilled hot dogs and hamburgers. Each Big received an award with the words, "You Rock," painted on a stone. All of the High School Bigs had a fantastic time at the event, which was planned by 12 students on the BBBS High School Advisory Board.



High School Bigs



Day at the Links: PGA Women's Open

On Monday, June 23, more than 50 Bigs and Littles spent their morning practicing their golf swings with the help of PGA Assistant Pros at a golf clinic located at the Halla Greens Executive Course in Chanhassen. At the end of the clinic, there was a putting contest for the Littles. The winner received a full set of golf clubs, donated by Callaway®. Next, the group headed to the Interlachen Country Club in Edina for lunch, followed by a golf-trick show and finally an opportunity to view the Women's U.S. Open practice rounds first-hand. The day was part of the program, "Birdies for Big Brothers," which donates money to BBBS for every birdie made during a Minnesota Section PGA golf tournament for Assistant Professionals this summer. Everyone had a fantastic time spending the day on the course under the beautiful sunny skies. Mike Herzog, Big Brother and Assistant Pro at Interlachen, reported his Little told him that the day was the most fun he had ever had.



Little Brother Garrett, who won in the putting contest, with his new Callaway Junior Golf Clubs

Arby's Charity Tour

On Monday, July 21, 121 golfers celebrated the 11th Annual Arby's Charity Tour at Tartan Park in Lake Elmo and raised more than \$117,000 for BBBS. Participants were thrilled to be on the course with Minnesota sports icons, Tubby Smith and Neal Broten, especially Big Brother Josh Smith and Little Brother Jason who were given the opportunity to play with them. Smith is currently the head coach for University of Minnesota men's basketball, and Broten is a former Minnesota North Star player who became a world champion when the U.S. hockey team won the gold medal in the 1980 Olympics in Moscow.



Team Ecolab, including Board member, John Vegas (second from left)

The Arby's Charity Tour Greater Twin Cities consisted of a round of golf followed by a reception, auction and awards presentation. The Arby's Charity Tour bus and #17 Matt Kenseth Arby's NASCAR® Nationwide Series car made their final stop at the golf tournament after a week of hosting community events around the Twin Cities. Since 1998, the tournament has raised more than \$2 million to generate awareness and funds for BBBS.



**Top from left to right: Big Brother Josh, Coach Tubby Smith, Little Brother Jason, Neal Broten and Arby's Charity Tour President, Greg Hawkins
Bottom: BBBS Board Chair Chuck Roehrick at the top of his backswing**

a LITTLE bit of YOU makes a BIG DIFFERENCE



Little Sister Patricia and Big Sister Darlene, who is also BBBS' Manager of Community Outreach and Volunteer Recruitment

letter
Patricia Pratt
5/7/08

The reason why I'm glad to have a big sister is... She helps me through struggles and makes me feel safe and close to her and her family her kids are very respectful and funny and treat me like family I thought I was going to be left out but they treated me just like their blood me and Darlene are really special and ourselves around each other and I love her already it's kind of hard for me to get close to some one because of trust but I trust her because she has my back through thick and thin and I can talk to her with out false judgement or anything she really cares about me so much and I do to I respect for that Darlene is like family or a sister I can tell anything I love her so much!

Rook is waiting for a mentor!



My name is Rook. I want a big brother in my life because I think it will be fun to bond with them and have them teach me new things. we could play sports together or just talk about being boys. Rook' age 7

BBBS Staff Member Receives National Award



Alicia Schwarz, Vice President of Evaluation, Information and Special Projects, was selected for the 2008 Margaret Slack Award for Professional Development by Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. The award is given annually to a Big Brothers Big Sisters staff member who has demonstrated an exceptional

degree of professionalism and quality of service. Alicia began her career at BBBS in 2001 and has consistently demonstrated an outstanding level of professionalism and commitment to quality in every aspect of her work. She effectively collaborates and partners with other BBBS agencies and the national office. Through her work, Alicia has gained significant community support for our organization and its programs.

At the same time that she has been deeply committed to our agency, Alicia has continued to pursue her own educational development. She is currently

in the final phases of receiving her Master's in Leadership from Augsburg College. Alicia also participates in the University of Minnesota's Evaluation Fellow Program, a cohort for evaluators, funders and youth-serving program providers.

Alicia plans to use the funds from this award to further her personal and professional growth. Alicia states, "My experiences as a member of the BBBS team have been positive and growth-oriented. It is because of my work here that I continue to remain energized and excited about what BBBS is doing for young people in our region."

Alicia will receive a \$1,000 award from the Margaret Slack Endowment Fund, established to honor the memory of Margaret Slack, a dedicated field manager who died in 1991. The Big Brothers Big Sisters of America Board of Directors created the fund in 1992.

Update: As we go to press, we are sad to announce that Alicia has accepted a position with Target Corporation. We are so very proud of the work she's done for BBBS over the past seven years and wish her the best of luck in this new phase of her career. We will miss Alicia very much!

BIG/ALUMNI GIVING CHALLENGE UPDATE

Last year, current Bigs and BBBS Alumni donated \$12,000 to our agency, which enabled us to support 10 matches for a year. This year, our goal is to double the number of matches supported by Bigs and BBBS Alumni.

To meet our goal, we are challenging current and Alumni Bigs and Alumni Littles to raise \$24,000, the amount needed to support 20 matches for a year. It costs \$1,200 to support one match for one year.

The money is used for Bigs' orientation and training, processing applications, matching Little Brothers and Sisters with mentors, providing information packets and supporting our matches.

To count towards the challenge, gifts must be first-time donations from Bigs/Alumni or renewal donations from Bigs/Alumni that are a 30-percent increase from their previous gift.

Since the beginning of April 2008, the challenge

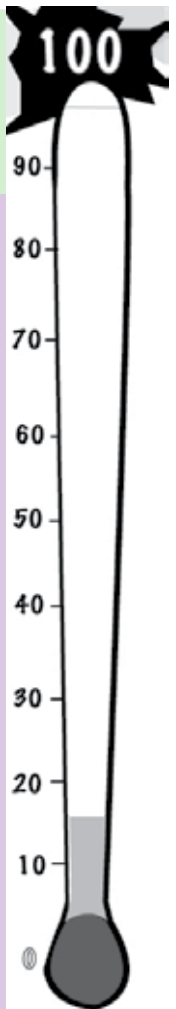
has already raised more than \$3,700. To kick off the BBBS Bigs/Alumni Challenge, Foster and Elaine Cole – long-time supporters and a dedicated Big Alumni Couple – donated a lead gift and will donate the funds to support an additional match when our goal is met.

Donations may be sent to Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities, 2550 University Ave. West, Suite 410N, St. Paul, MN, 55114, or you make an online donation at www.bigstwincities.org.

Tickets, auction purchases and workplace giving donations are not included in the challenge. If you are an alumni of BBBS, please identify yourself as a former participant when you donate to ensure that your donation is counted towards the challenge.

CAN YOU HELP US MEET OUR GOAL? WE NEED TO RAISE MONEY FOR 16 MORE MATCHES!

The deadline for the challenge is November 21, 2008.



Donor Spotlight: DeVitos

Joyce and Michael DeVito became involved in BBBS in 1995 through their contribution to the Bowl for Kid's Sake (BFKS) event, an annual fundraiser to raise money for our agency. The family thoroughly enjoyed the BFKS event and has continued to make contributions towards this event since their first donation in 1995. In February, Joyce and Michael attended the 10th Annual BBBS Awards Gala. After hearing inspirational stories and realizing the needs of the organization, they decided to significantly increase their donation to Big Brothers Big Sisters. According to Joyce, "It was incredible to hear the stories and realize the needs of the children for mentors. We felt we could truly help and wanted to positively impact the kids."

Their generosity and enthusiasm for supporting the community was passed onto their seven-year-old son, John. When John participated in the Wells Fargo BFKS earlier this year, his parents encouraged him to give part of his allowance to help other kids. They explained how donating money at BFKS helps kids to be matched with a mentor. Before the event, John asked his mom how much he should give. Joyce let John decide. After learning how much it costs to run the BBBS program, John decided to donate all of the \$15 he had saved over the past few months. The family had a great time at the BFKS event, and on the way home, John began asking if he could donate again next year. Today, John has an envelope that reads "Big Brothers

Big Sisters." He puts one dollar of his seven-dollar allowance in the envelope every week, which he plans to donate to the BFKS Community Day event in November.


The DeVito family truly inspires others to give and serve the community. "To see their son choose to share his allowance speaks volumes about their family values," Board member and Michael's Wells Fargo colleague John Hueg said. "Certainly their son has learned these lessons from Mom and Dad and then chose to act on what he has learned. They bring so much passion and energy to everything they do. The DeVito's are a wonderful family who truly choose to give freely of themselves."



Joyce, Michael and John DeVito

This year, Joyce is volunteering on the committee for the Awards Gala. Michael is a new member of the Corporate and Foundation Giving Subcommittee for BBBS and has coordinated teams for the 2008 BFKS. BBBS would like to thank Joyce, Michael and John for their contributions and their passion for helping the young people in our communities.

November 2008

s	m	t	w	t	f	s
						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 / 30	24	25	26	27	28	29



Save The Date
 Saturday, November 1, 2008
 2:00 - 4:00 P.M.

AMF Southtown Lanes, 7800 Penn Avenue South, Bloomington
 Teams of five will join BBBS matches to enjoy two games of bowling, free shoe rental, food and beverages, T-shirts and prizes.
 To register, go to www.firstgiving.com/bbbsgtc.

If you have questions about registration, please e-mail Sara Gumke at sgumke@bigtwincities.org.

PAINTING A BRIGHTER FUTURE: 2008 Big Brothers Big Sisters Scholarship Recipients

BBBS is proud to announce our 2008 Big Brothers Big Sisters scholarship winners. Congratulations to all of our Little Brothers and Sisters and our High School Big Brothers and Sisters who received college scholarships this year. Their success illustrates the power of our education and enrichment activities.

To learn more about the many post-secondary resources available in our communities, please contact Willy Tully, Education and Enrichment Activities Coordinator, at 651-789-2445.

Annexstad Scholarship

(variable dollar amounts, renewable)

1st Year Scholars

Phong Chang – St. Olaf College
Cameron Cochran – University of St. Thomas
Danielle Goodwin – Augsburg College
Charlotte Guggenberger – Augsburg College
Paris Koehler – Southwest Minnesota State University
Tong Thao – Gustavus Adolphus College
Mindy Ung – Gustavus Adolphus College

2nd Year Scholars

Courtney Bell – University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
Nadvia Davis – Gustavus Adolphus College
Ashley Dubose – Gustavus Adolphus College
Veronica Dubose – Gustavus Adolphus College
Sherry Durrah – University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
Zakiya Edwards – University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
Michael Martin – Minnesota State University-Moorhead
Lisa Paulson – University of Minnesota-Duluth
Debra Walker – Southwest Minnesota State University (Transferring)

3rd Year Scholars

Cody Drobnick – St. Mary's University of Minnesota-Winona

Temali Scholarship

(\$4,000 per year, renewable for up to 2 years)

Choua Yang (HS Big) (2nd year) – University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Page Education Foundation Grant

(\$1,000 - \$2,500 per year, renewable)

1st Year Scholars

Kiara Malone (HS Big) – University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
Carrie Moua (HS Big) – Gustavus Adolphus College
Ikran Muhamud (HS Big) – Concordia University
LaQuana Pierce – Hamline University
Sequinna Smith (HS Big) – Minneapolis Community and Technical College
Pang Vang (HS Big) – University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
Lee Vue (HS Big) – University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
Chue Vue (HS Big) – St. Olaf College
Xue Yang (HS Big) – University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
Yer Yang (HS Big) – Gustavus Adolphus College

2nd Year Scholars

Alejandra Andrade (HS Big) – College of Saint Benedict
Kanita Dangerfield – Minneapolis Community and Technical College
Ashley Dubose – Gustavus Adolphus College
Emmanuel Livingstone (HS Big) – Saint John's University
Cheetara McKinley – Minneapolis Community and Technical College
Shee Xiong (HS Big) – College of Saint Benedict
Rashad White – Minneapolis Community and Technical College

3rd Year Scholars

Richard Terrell – North Central University

Wallin Scholarship (\$16,000 over 4 years)

1st Year Scholars

Amy Guan (HS Big) – Drake University
Brian Mueggenberg (HS Big) – Saint Cloud State University

Wallin Scholarship, continued

LaShaya Stewart (HS Big) – Morgan State University
Koua Xiong (HS Big) – Grinnell College
Jackie Yang (HS Big) – St. Olaf College
Yer Yang (HS Big) – Gustavus Adolphus College

2nd Year Scholars

Nadvia Davis – Gustavus Adolphus College
Sherry Durrah – University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
Zakiya Edwards – University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Gates Millenium Scholarship

(variable dollar amounts, renewable)

Koua Xiong (HS Big) – Grinnell College

Horatio Alger Scholarship (\$4,000 over 4 years)

Tong Thao – Gustavus Adolphus College
Xue Yang (HS Big) – University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
Yer Yang (HS Big) – Gustavus Adolphus College

2nd Year Scholars

Debra Walker (\$20,000 over 4 years) – Southwest Minnesota State University
Jaleesa Cohen (HS Big) – University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
Choua Yang (HS Big) – University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
Shee Xiong (HS Big) – College of Saint Benedict
Sue Feng Vue (HS Big) – Saint John's University

Power of YOU (Minneapolis Community and Technical College)

1st Year Scholars

Kiaya Coppage
Katherine Cato, Jr.

2nd Year Scholars

Cheetara McKinley
Kanita Dangerfield

I-LEAD Fellowship/Scholarship

(College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University)

2nd Year Scholars

Alejandra Andrade (HS Big)
Emmanuel Livingstone (HS Big)
Shee Xiong (HS Big)

Outstanding Individuals

Tong Thao – attending Gustavus Adolphus College

Annexstad Family Foundation Scholarship (\$8,265 per year, renewable)
Horatio Alger Minnesota Scholarship (\$1,000 per year, renewable)
Page Education Foundation Scholarship (Declined because of excess financial aid)
Multicultural Excellence Program Scholarship
Gustavus Adolphus Academic Scholarship

Yer Yang (HS Big) – attending Gustavus Adolphus College

Harrington Foundation Scholarship (\$2,000 per year, renewable)
Horatio Alger Minnesota Scholarship (\$1,000 per year, renewable)
Page Education Foundation Scholarship (\$1,500 per year, renewable)
Wallin Scholarship (\$4,000 per year, renewable)
William C. & Corrine J. Dietrich Award (\$5,000 per year, renewable)

Thank you to our generous donors!

This list names only a few of the people and organizations whose generosity makes it possible for BBBS to serve its mission. Due to space constraints, we are unable to list everyone who provided support for our work. Thank you to all our supporters.

INDIVIDUAL DONORS \$200,000+

Estate of Eleanor Pederson

\$10,000-25,000

Bill and Jeannie Buckner
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\$5,000-9,999

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Matthew and Janine Yordy

\$500-999

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Roz Andreucci
James Andrews
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Anonymous - HSBC Bank
Anonymous - Polaris Industries
Inc.
Anonymous - UnitedHealth Group
Anonymous - Washington County
Jason Chu
Martin Conover and Jeffery
Kirkwood
Edward and Sherry Ann Dayton
Fred Dickson
Michael Dimond
Dave and Kathy Eide
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Eric Johnson
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*The Power of Mentoring:
 Dave Luebbe's Story*

I became a Big Brother when I was 22 years old and single. My Little Brother, Brian, was 10 years old. We spent the next five years going out for ice cream, cutting down Christmas trees, carving out pumpkins, and going to the circus, the fair and the water park. Brian and I both loved baseball, so he came to my games, and I helped him learn to pitch. Brian's parents divorced and he rarely got the opportunity to see his father. So, over those years I taught Brian how to tie a tie, blend a milk shake, drive a boat, roller skate and bowl. I bought him his first bicycle, his first baseball glove and his first stereo. We had talks about school, drugs, girls and his future.

As the years went on, I was there to watch Brian graduate from high school and later from college (where he played baseball and was named to All State). I got married when I was 28, and Brian was one of the ushers at my wedding. Seven years after my marriage, Brian got married, and I was an usher at his wedding.

It's been 27 years since I met Brian. Today, I'm 49 with three teenagers of my own. My son is playing high school baseball, and my oldest daughter will be going to the University of Minnesota in the fall. I've had my family out to see Brian, his beautiful wife Melanie and their three young boys who live in a modest home near Bowling Green, Ohio. Brian and his wife own a day care facility, and Brian coaches the junior varsity baseball team at the local high school. Every year, my kids still ask me whether we will be stopping in to see Uncle Brian over the holidays.



So, for just a few hours a week – during a time when this boy was in need of a father figure – I was able to mold the life of a young man who has

become a father in his own right. Brian (and his mother) wrote me many letters over the years thanking me for entering into that relationship and telling me how much of a difference I had made in their lives. It was only last month that Brian picked up the phone and called me again. He still refers to me as his Big. Once again, we got caught up laughing at the great times we had together as single men.

Pictured above: Big Brother Dave, left, with Little Brother Brian, right, in 2000. Included is Dave's son, Mitchell, bottom left, and Brian's first son, Nicholas, top right.

Save The Date! 2nd Annual Meeting

Painting a Brighter Future

Friday, November 21, 2008

Metropolitan Ballroom

5418 Wayzata Blvd., Minneapolis

11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

\$50 per individual

Attention current Big Brothers and Sisters!

Enter your Little in a drawing to introduce Hill Harper from the stage at the event and have his/her photo taken with Hill. To enter the drawing, contact Sara Gumke at 651-789-2476.

Keynote Speaker



Presented by **SUPERVALU**

Hill Harper, Big Brother and national advocate for Big Brothers Big Sisters. Hill is best known for his current role on the hit television drama series, *CSI: NY*.

Emcee

Sheletta Brundidge, host of *CrossRoads* on KSTC - TV, is a recent Emmy winner for Best Independent Blog.



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