



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Western North Carolina

2018-2019 Success Report



UNLOCKING POTENTIAL

3,016 Children Served!

BBBS one-to-one mentoring: **716** children

AmeriCorps Project MARS: **2,300** children

During the 2018-19 school year,

94% showed improved **Self Confidence**

87% improved their **Problem-Solving Skills**

87% improved their **Motivation to Learn**

85% improved their **Behavior in School**

ONE OF OUR RISING STARS

Last summer before he was to begin college, Patrick Dyer Allen, a high school-aged Big Brother in Cherokee County, was given one of Minor League Baseball and MiLB Charities' 10 national Rising Star Students awards.



Patrick was presented with the award, which includes tuition and other education-related expenses, by BBBSWNC Executive Director Robin Myer (shown above with Patrick) at an Asheville Tourists minor league baseball game. Each year, Minor League Baseball and MiLB Charities' program recognizes high school students preparing for their "call-ups" to college by acknowledging their achievements in academics and in their communities.

Winners were nominated by their respective Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies and were required to submit descriptions of their academic and personal achievements, college and career goals, and how their involvement in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program has impacted their lives. Currently serving as a "Big" or "Little" was an eligibility requirement for the award.

PREPARING THEIR FUTURE

In a sure sign of success, BBBSWNC had several long-time Littles graduate from high school this year.

"College is scary, but (Big Sister) Ann has been beside me to walk me through it," graduating Little Sister Megan (top photo) says.



Little Brother AJ, who also graduated, credits Big Brother Evan, an Asheville police officer, with "pushing me to be successful and to be the best I can be."



"As the Bigs, Littles, and their parents have told me, these relationships will not end at high school graduation," BBBS match coordinator Kelly Wolf says. "They are sure to last a lifetime."



HIGH SCHOOL BIGS STEPPING UP

Cherokee County is so small that about a decade ago the BBBS branch there reached out to high school students to be "Bigs." Now the program has grown - about four dozen

students from Murphy, Andrews, and Hiwassee Dam high schools mentor students at area elementary schools. Bigs are benefiting in so many ways, local program



coordinator Gloria Dockery says. "They are learning to give in their community and to be patient with others, more helpful. And to teach their Littles lessons from the past. The Littles are learning to trust and are seeing how they can grow up and give back the same way the Bigs give to them!"



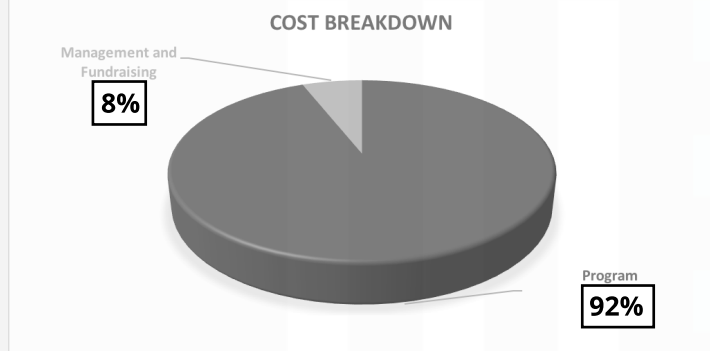
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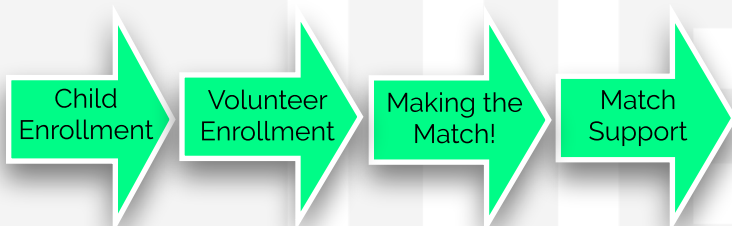
FINANCE

REVENUE	EXPENSE	DIFFERENCE
\$1,485,106	\$1,541,056	- \$55,950



YOUR SUPPORT

The financial support from our donors and sponsors is what truly provides the steps toward **inspiring, empowering and igniting potential in children!**



AmeriCorps/Project MARS

AmeriCorps/Project MARS served **2,300 children** in the 2018-19 program year, providing mentoring, academic assistance and resources to these children in 13 schools across Western North Carolina. Of these children, **93 percent showed improvement in attitude and 92 percent improved behaviorally.** AmeriCorps had 164 mentors and 907 volunteers. 2018-19 service volunteers provided 17,950 hours of service. Project MARS' success in the previous year was the reason its funder, The NC Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service, asked it to expand during the 2018-19 service year. AmeriCorps/Project MARS ended the fiscal year with 17 full-time members and 33 part-time members.



2018 MATCH SPOTLIGHT

AJ and Evan

AJ and Evan were matched for six years when AJ graduated from high school in June. "Evan wants me to stay positive. He always keeps me away from the negative," AJ has said of his Big Brother. If it hadn't been for Evan, "my life would probably be complicated, or I would be in trouble." Having a Big Brother "really just opened my eyes to reality and helped me become a better person."



Evan, whose police work often brings him close to people in their stressful moments, knew that Big Brothers Big Sisters provided an opportunity to make a difference in a young person's life. He was thrilled to be matched with AJ, who was shy and reserved when they met.

"AJ has grown into a big, strong, young man, and I'm so proud of him," Evan says. "I can't take much credit for AJ's success. He has worked so hard and applied himself so well in everything that he does."

LEADERSHIP THANK YOU!

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