



*Big Brother Michael  
Little Brother Jahcear  
Matched 2 years*

**Annual Report 2016**

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[www.blueridgebig.org](http://www.blueridgebig.org)



*Big Brother Ben  
Little Brother Jahice  
Matched 1.5 years*



**Our Vision:**  
All children achieve  
success in life.

**Our Mission:**  
To provide children facing adversity  
with strong and enduring,  
professionally supported 1-to-1  
relationships that change their lives  
for the better, forever.



*"Our evidence-based mentorship program allows for long-term, meaningful relationships to thrive."*

On behalf of the children we serve, I want to thank you for your involvement with our small, yet impactful chapter of Big Brothers Big Sisters. Big Brothers Big Sisters has been doing supported mentoring work for over 100 years, and 2016 marked the Central Blue Ridge chapter's 6th year of being headquartered in Charlottesville. This past year we served 273 children in our Charlottesville/Albemarle community. As a mother of young children myself, I know the awesome responsibility that comes along with raising children to be productive and responsible adults. That's why I am proud that so many area families chose to work with our agency to provide mentors for their children. Our children come from a variety of backgrounds, but all have in common that the odds for a successful future are stacked against them. Our supportive mentorship program provides the steady and caring adult presence in their lives that is so essential to the mission of BBBS — to change lives for the better, forever.

Our evidence-based mentorship program, provided by dedicated staff members, is the "secret sauce" that allows for long-term, meaningful relationships to thrive. Last spring's hiring of a new Executive Director with in-depth knowledge and experience in mentorship programming, Athena Gould, has enhanced the delivery of service to our families. I was heartened to learn recently that Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Central Blue Ridge was among a small handful of BBBS chapters recognized with a quality award from the National BBBS organization for the exceptional level of service that we provide to our families and our mentoring matches.

Of course, we would not be able to do any of this without the financial support from our donors and the gift of time from our volunteer Bigs. It truly does take a village—thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Ariana C.H. Williams".

Ariana Williams  
Board President

*"I am honored to be a part  
of a community where  
children come first."*



Mentoring is a powerful investment in the life of a child. Through consistent engagement, a mentor can positively influence everything from school preparedness to changes in behavior. Let me share a story that illustrates how one person can make a difference in a child's life. Last year, Little Brother Shawn got into a few fights at school. Worried, his mom spoke with Shawn's Big Brother about the situation. Big Brother, Stan, spent a lot of time working with Shawn on conflict resolution and decision making. Through mentorship, Little Brother Shawn learned how to de-escalate volatile situations. This year, Shawn received a letter from his Principal thanking him for intervening when other kids were preparing to fight. Big Brothers and Big Sisters become aspirational role models for the children we serve. It may be years before we see the full effect of Stan's investment in his Little Brother, but we know that he is having a tremendous impact.

In 2016 we celebrated our 6th year headquartered in Charlottesville. Time has shown that we are a durable organization. While our agency was impacted by the transition of our senior leadership, we have assembled an experienced and passionate team, poised to lead this agency into the next chapter. In this report, we reflect on our growth and highlight our plans for continued sustainability.

I am honored to be a part of a community where children come first. We are a small nonprofit, taking on a mighty goal of changing lives for the better. We know that our impact is only as strong as those who join us in our mission. I welcome you to call our office, come and meet our team and learn more about how you can make a difference by investing in the life of a child.

Sincerely,



Athena Gould  
Executive Director

Big Sister Briana  
Little Sister Ty'Mirra  
Matched 1.5 years



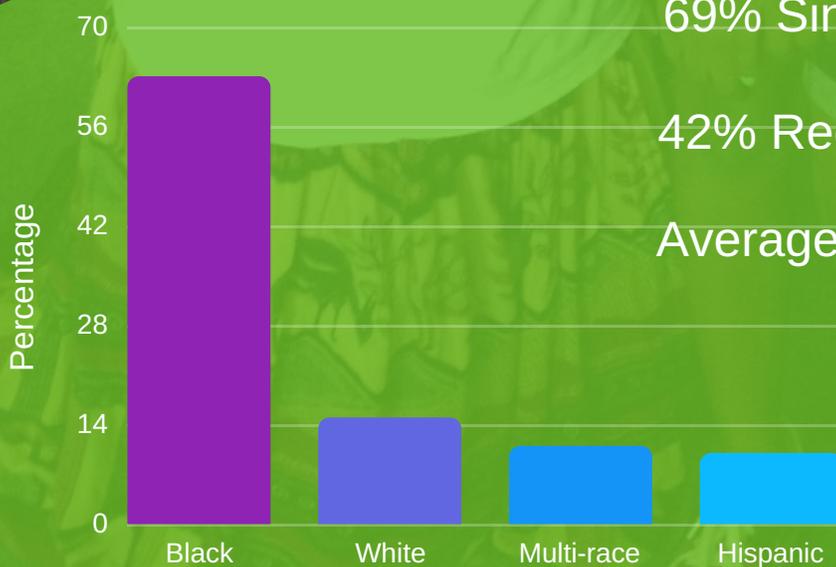
## 273 Children Served

87% Eligible for free or reduced lunch

69% Single parent households

42% Receive family assistance

Average age: 10



*Our work is not done!*  
*Average # of children  
waiting for a Big:*  
**30**



*Big Brother Eric  
Little Brother Eduardo  
Matched 1 year*

## Our mentors have made a BIG impact on their Littles!

*"I want to keep David forever!"  
Raashon, age 11*

*"Houston is my best friend! I know  
he will be there for me."  
Ka'marius, age 9*

*"I like Peyton because she's funny and  
she gives me good advice about  
school. I value her advice because I  
don't get in trouble in school anymore."  
Saria, age 9*

*"When I'm with Kelly, I feel happy  
and proud of myself."  
Alaja, age 9*

# BIG Impact

After being matched with a Big  
for at least 12 months...



93%

Were less likely to engage in risky behaviors such as smoking, drug and alcohol use.



89%

Felt connected to an adult.



100%

Increased or maintained positive peer relationships.



93%

Improved or maintained their educational expectations of themselves.

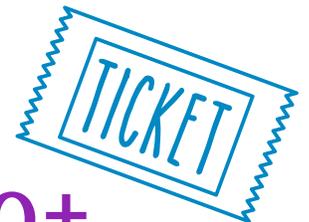


73.5%

Felt connected to their peers.

Average  
Match  
Length:  
17 Months

*BBBS requires  
at least 12 months*



350+

Free tickets to sporting  
& theater events

Your support allowed us to offer...

30 Activities that promote Health & Wellness

5 Activities that promote Civic Engagement

6 Activities that promote Career Exploration

5 Activities that promote Hobby & Interest Development

# BIG of the Year



*Big Brother Sam  
Little Brother Logan  
Matched 3.5 years*



# BIG of the Year

After being selected as the Central Blue Ridge 2016 Big Brother of the Year, Sam Bush was honored with the Virginia State Big Brother of the Year Award. Each Big Brother nominee across the state of Virginia demonstrates significant impact on their Little, a high level of engagement in the mission of BBBS, and shows excellence as an advocate for the agency. Sam was nominated for his consistency, his encouragement of his Little, and his exemplary communication with the agency.

"My son was always happy on days that Sam got to come to Logan's school to play with him at recess. That was a hard time for Logan, as he was told that he was too short or no good at playing basketball by his peers, but Sam would come to the school and politely ask the kids if he could join. It gave Logan the ability to play and to feel included without being pushed out. He would come home and be beaming with pride on those days...Sam taught Logan how to play guitar and they spend time together just having fun doing simple things like throwing a football. Sam is great about saying positive things to Logan in a genuine way. Logan has told me, 'You can tell when Sam pays you a compliment, he isn't doing it to pretend to be nice; he actually IS nice!'"

*Crystal, Mother of Logan*

"I'm continuously surprised how everyday experiences with Logan have significance in themselves. There is an openness and gentleness to him that cannot be taught or learned through discipline. Such character is a matter of the heart...He takes a genuine delight in people and in his surroundings...It feels selfish to admit this, but one reason why I look forward to seeing Logan is because I know he looks forward to seeing me. Over the past three years, a brotherly relationship has developed between us. I have felt a genuine connection with him ever since we were introduced on the playground of Clark Elementary and learned that our nicknames were both "Lamb" as little kids...I'm looking forward to continue seeing Logan grow up and develop as a person and to be a part of BBBS. After all, I'm the lucky one."

*Big Brother Sam Bush*

"I was seven years old when I met Sam. He came to my school and ate lunch with me and then we would play outside together with my friends. I was so excited! One of my favorite things to do is to go exploring with him. We look for birds and try to take pictures...I like Sam because he is patient with me. He has been teaching me to play guitar and when I mess up he doesn't get mad at me or anything. He is really good at being honest in a nice way because he wants to teach me to do better. Sam is always excited to see me. Sometimes when I'm having a bad day just going out with Sam makes me feel better."

*Little Brother Logan*

2016 BBBS  
Quality Award  
Winner

*Of over 300 BBBS agencies, ours was one of only 36 affiliates to win this award, based on the number of children served, match retention, quality support and revenue.*

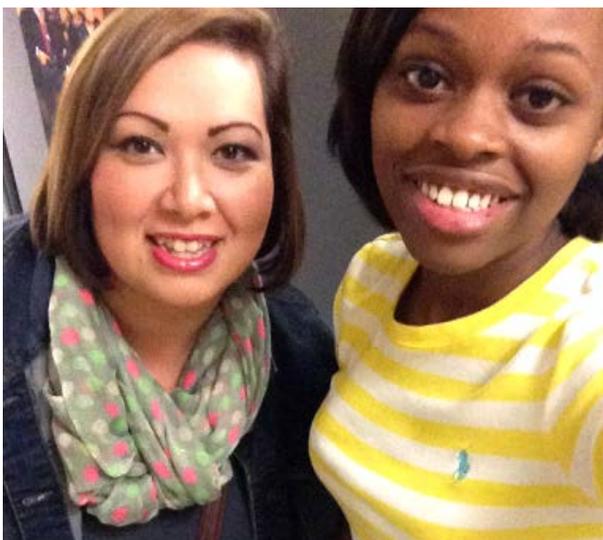
## The Central Blue Ridge Celebrates Two Program and High School Graduates



### Little Brother Guy

Little Brother Guy has been matched with his Big Brother, Shiloka, for 9 years. At the 8 year mark Guy made it a goal to be the longest running match in the Central Blue Ridge. They succeeded! When asked what the biggest benefit has been of having a Big Brother, he said, **"No matter what, Shiloka is a safe space. No matter what's going on, I can go and talk to him and it's a stress relief."**

Guy has been volunteering with the fire department and has participated in ride alongs with the police department. He plans to go into the Army after he graduates and is considering becoming a firefighter in the Army as a career.



### Little Sister Alisse

Little Sister Alisse has been matched with her Big Sister, Becky, for over 6 years. Growing as close as sisters, Becky asked Alisse to be a bridesmaid in her wedding. Alisse reflects that it feels great to be a part of the program for this long. **"Becky has always been there for me."**

Alisse has been taking classes at PVCC with the goal of getting her associates degree by the time she graduates High School. She plans to either go to law school or go into medicine.

# Strategic Plan 2017-2019

**Program: Ensure the highest program quality and outcomes for our Littles.** After a period of growth in the number of matches made, we have increased our focus on strengthening the impact we make in the lives of the children we serve. We aspire to make a transformational difference in their socio-emotional competencies and avoidance of risky behaviors. Over time, we also aim to provide more opportunities for older kids and to serve special populations in especially challenging circumstances.

**People: Strengthen human resources and strategic partnerships.** People are our most important resource in making a difference in the lives of Littles. In the coming years, you'll see us making our volunteer experience even more robust, engaging in strategic partnerships with other youth serving organizations, and ensuring our board and staff perform at the highest possible level. We'll also be reaching out to enhance our relationship with the communities we serve.

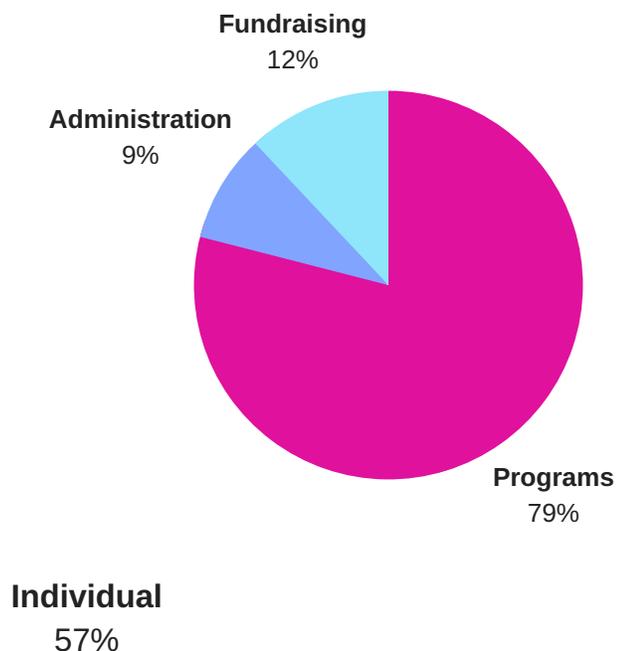
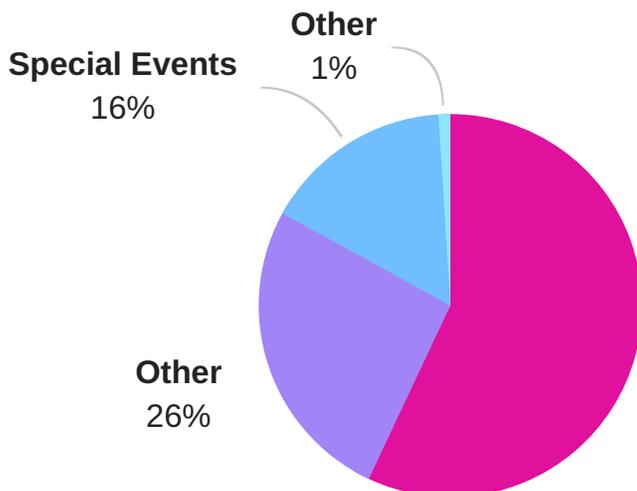
**Platform: Build a strong organizational and funding platform to support our programs.** We can change lives only when we stand on a strong platform. We'll continue to diversify our funding streams and strengthen all aspects of our comprehensive fund development program. BBBS enjoys a powerful national brand and we'll be leveraging that to the fullest extent as well as strengthening our financial position.

## Expenses

\$435,223

## Revenue

\$378,725





Free Union Farm  
Footrace



## Our Donors

*You make it all possible! This list represents donations received between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016. We are deeply grateful for the generosity of our community. Every attempt has been made to ensure the completeness of this list. If you discover an error, please accept our sincere apologies and notify Lisa Claytor at [lclaytor@blueridgebig.org](mailto:lclaytor@blueridgebig.org).*

### **\$25,000 - \$50,000**

Anonymous  
City of Charlottesville  
Hilltop Foundation  
Sonjia Smith

### **\$10,000 - \$24,999**

Anonymous  
Farkas Family Foundation  
Matthew and Jennie Hantzmon  
Aaron and Candice Hark  
The Bama Works Fund of Dave Matthews  
Band at the Charlottesville Area  
Community Foundation

### **\$5,000 - \$9,999**

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Gil and Elizabeth Blankespoor  
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Thomas and Sarah Everett  
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Virginia Eagle Distributing Company LLC  
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### **\$2,500 - \$4,999**

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Bill and Monique Pritchard  
Quantitative Investment Management  
Whole Foods Market

### **\$1,000 - \$2,499**

ACAC Fitness & Wellness Centers  
Ace Contracting, Inc.  
Bright Ideas  
CST Country Store  
Dalgliesh Gilpin Paxton Architects  
Beth Farris  
First Heritage Mortgage  
Four Hoos Management, LLC  
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Chris and Becky Grandle  
Amy and John Harris



*Bowl for Kids'  
Sake*

Harvest Moon Catering Inc  
 Indaco Risk Advisors, Inc.  
 Angeline Stoll Lillard  
 Michael Pausic and Kelley MacDougall  
 Maxient  
 McGuireWoods LLP  
 Dan and Mary Lewis Meador  
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 Merkle, Inc.  
 MVB Bank  
 My Piano Starts Here  
 Pres Nowlin  
 NWG Solutions, Inc.  
 Catherine Rotolo In Memory of Carmela and  
 Charles S. Rotolo  
 Derek and Heather Sieg  
 Starr Hill/Red Light Fund at Charlottesville Area  
 Community Foundation  
 Tiger Fuel Company  
 Mindy and Ryan Vaughan  
 VNB Wealth Management  
 Alison Webb  
 Wells Fargo Foundation  
 WestWind Foundation  
 Robert and Claire Wood

**\$500 - \$999**

Allen Family Charitable Foundation  
 Anonymous  
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 BBBS of America  
 Bellair Market  
 Crutchfield Corporation  
 Anna Scholl and Stephen Davis  
 Sasha Farmer  
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 Three Ridges Consulting  
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 Dede Smith and Tim Wilson

**\$250 - \$499**

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 CAL Financial Group  
 Robert Cathcart  
 Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign  
 Phil and Ingrid Cordano  
 John Couric  
 Dave and Susan Dallas  
 Molly and Drew Dunnington  
 Lauren Frick  
 Jacob Gozner  
 Julia Jones



*Big Sister Shana  
BBBS Staff Chelsea*



*Big Brothers Bennett and Alec  
BBBS Staff Alicia and Christie*

McCann Family Fund  
Nicholas Meythaler  
Ben Pfinsgraff  
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Silicon Valley Community Foundation  
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**\$100 - \$249**

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Black Belt Success Academy  
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William S Knight  
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Patrick Long  
Steve and Martha McDonough  
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Woody Oakey  
Brock and Cindy Petrie  
James and Patricia Pitts  
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S&P Global  
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Charles Turner  
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Varian Partners in Giving Program  
Waterstone Mortgage  
Sean Wathen  
Trevor and Meg Williams

**\$0 - \$99**

Aetna Life Insurance Company  
Jennifer M Aluisi  
AmazonSmile Foundation  
Michael and Denise Bachman



Big Sister Ashley  
Little Sister Nevaeh  
Matched 3 years



Big Brother Malachi  
Little Brother Majestic  
Matched 2.5 years



Big Brother Marc  
Little Brother Jayson  
Matched 2 years

John Barr  
Janell Bash  
BBBS Gap Give Get  
Deane and Mark Begiebing  
Carmen Bingham  
John Bowen  
Michelle Brown  
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Betsy and John Casteen  
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Peggy Sprouse  
Katherine Stone  
Gordon and Sarah Sutton  
Elizabeth and David Sutton  
Ben and Karen Thomas  
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Rita Wagner  
Shannon A Wampler  
Joe Wayand  
Wells Fargo Community Support  
Lindsey White  
Lauren Willis  
Marra and Rebecca Wolf  
Robert T Wolman  
Your Cause



BBBS  
Summer Picnic

## Staff

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Alicia Townes  
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Rimana Issiako  
Lisa Claytor (2017)

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Mark Lorenzoni (2017)  
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\* *Current Big*

