

# BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF CENTRAL PLAINS, INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2024

## VISION

All young people realize their full potential

## MISSION

Enable life-changing mentoring relationships to ignite the power and potential of young people.

## VALUE

Providing children with a respectful and safe environment of trust, with positive presence and compassion, while maintaining confidentiality, integrity, transparency and sound business practices.

## Theory of Change

To build Developmental Relationship between the mentee and mentor so that the five elements: Express Care, Challenge Growth, Provide Support, Share Power and Expands Possibilities, may lead to outcomes for the child that will increase their potential.

## Land Acknowledgement

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Plains operates on Treaty No. 1 Territory, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples; as well as the homeland of the Metis Nation. We respect the Treaties formed on these territories, and acknowledge that We Are All Treaty People.



**Board of Directors for 2024:** Rhonda Lyle, Shasta St. Louis, Susan Mitchell, Bryce Moar, Donovan Hillman, Darrell Lee, Vicky Carnegie, Janice Laurent, Shea Peplinskie

## ANNUAL REPORT 2024

### President's Report 2024 – Rhonda Lyle

The last twelve months have been a mix of excitement, challenges and successes as we have continued to strive to support BBBSCP mentees, mentors and staff. Our Executive Director Dawn and Mentoring Coordinator Laura continued to provide us as a board with information necessary for making decisions both great and small, based on the Strategic Plan for 2025-2027. Their combined high caliber of knowledge, organization, creativity and passion for their work are much appreciated. As Dawn shares local stories of the impact of mentoring, we are inspired and reminded of why we do what we do.

With regret we said farewell to board member/treasurer Bryce Moar as his term ended. We wish to thank him for his dedication and contributions. New board members Shea Peplinskie and Vicki Carnegie began in April 2024, and Dominique McCorrister joined the board in March 2025.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events continued until the end of 2024. This year-long celebration resulted in many opportunities to promote BBBS and the benefits of mentoring in our area. Social media posts and speaking engagements were numerous and well received.

The biggest challenge in the last year has been ensuring that programming and staff are well supported financially. Fees from the National Organization increased substantially with little to no warning resulting in member chapters paying significantly higher amounts. One of our major funders, United Way, gave less than half of their usual yearly funding amount.

Significant memorial donations in honour of Doug Halmarson were greatly appreciated, as well as all other donations throughout the year.

We all worked together to stay afloat and stay strong. We were able to find less costly accounting services. Dawn and Laura applied for new and repeat grants and brainstormed our newest and highly successful Winter Wonderland fundraiser. A Fund Development Strategy was developed to focus our efforts on larger fundraising events such as 90 Hole Golf, Winter Wonderland, Duck Race, MCC Day, Sip Support Survive as well as the upcoming Volleyball Tournament. We took advantage of several smaller one-time funding opportunities such as catering lunches and suppers, Simplot Family day, and a Trivia Night event. Many volunteers from the community have stepped in to help when needed.

Online educational opportunities were made available, such as “Decolonizing the Boardroom” and “Diversity Equity Inclusion – Best Practices for Nonprofits”.

I’m very grateful for the collaborative efforts of our board and staff with the commitment, wisdom and insights they bring to the table.

## ANNUAL REPORT 2024



### Executive Directors Report 2024 – Dawn Froese

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year – what a year! When planning for the year I stated that we should party all year long and I believe we did. It began with a proclamation from Mayor Sherilyn Knox, City of Portage and the release of our 50<sup>th</sup> logo and video. There were many speaking engagements showing the 50<sup>th</sup> video and sharing where we are today. Speaking engagements were at Portage City Hall, RM of Portage, United Commercial Travelers, Rotary, Municipality of North Norfolk, MacGregor Kinettes Club, 150 Women Who Care (we won!), Community Foundation, Windsor Apartments, 3 Wing Southport, thank you everyone for allowing us to share. We also had a 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday party with many attending. Thank you for coming a celebrating with us.

Thank you!

Throughout the year many new friendships and mentoring relationships were made. After all these years it still amazes me the impact mentoring has on children and youth. I am thankful to all our mentors for the hours they have invested in the lives of children. I am thankful to the parents who see the benefit of their children having a mentor. What an honour it is to work where I get to meet children and see the impact having a mentor makes on their life.

Thank you to Laura Spelliscy. Laura advocates for the children we work with always seeking what is best for them and having great insight to what they need. Thank you to the Board of Directors who provides encouragement and oversight as well as their time and wisdom.

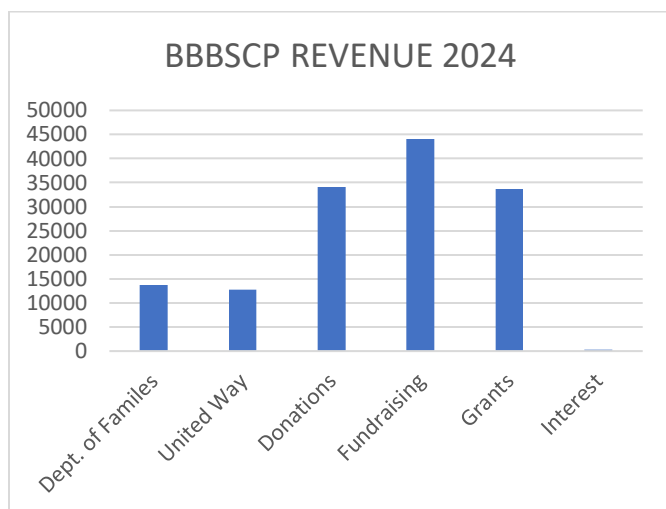
## ANNUAL REPORT 2024

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE:

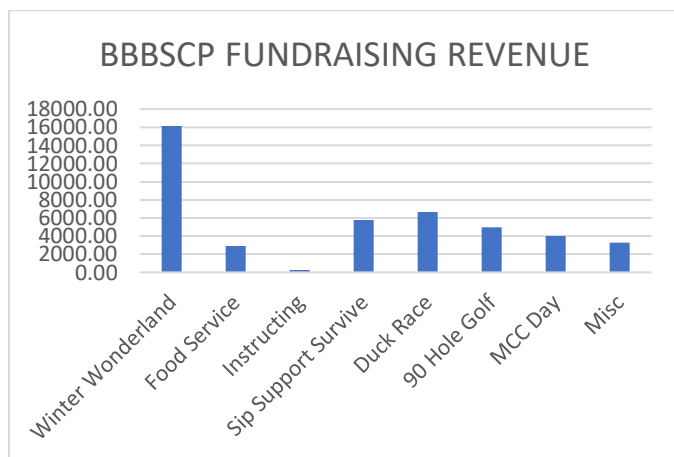
- Review/updated the following policies: HR Manual,
- Executive Director's evaluation was complete.
- Insurance Policy reviewed.
- Training: DEI Best Practices, Budget, Decolonizing Board
- Board evaluations completed

#### FINANCIAL/FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE



Thank you to our funding partners:  
-Department of Families (Gov. of MB)  
-United Way West Central Manitoba

Thank you to our many donors.



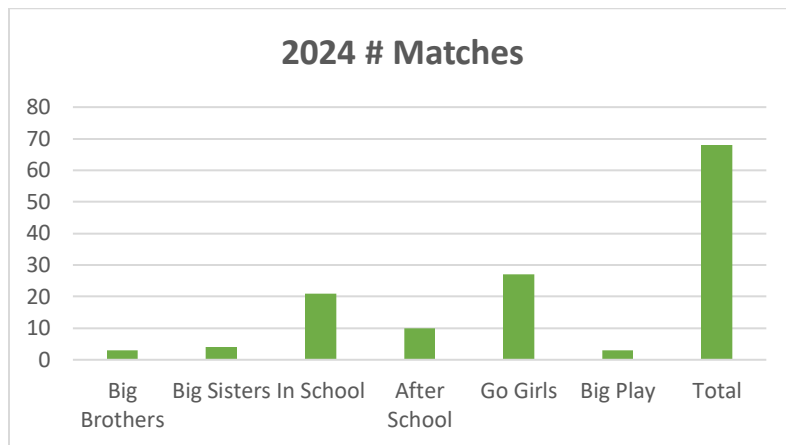
Thank you to all the  
businesses and  
individuals who made  
this year a success!

Misc. includes:

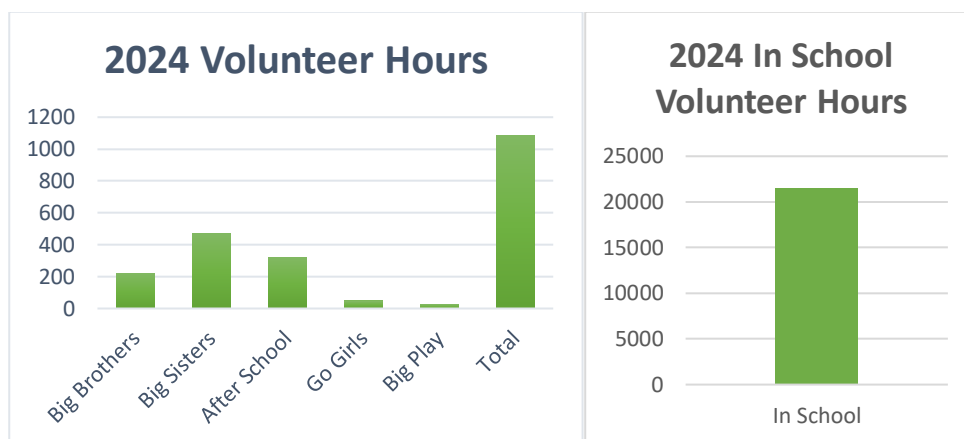
- Central PlainsCancer Care Table for 600 clean-up
- TDS Christianson Trivia Night
- Simplot Family day

## ANNUAL REPORT 2024

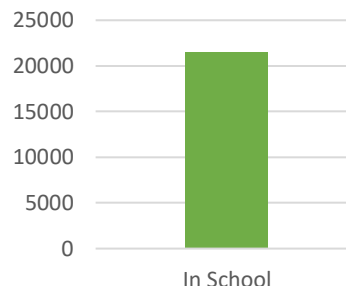
### MENTORING REPORT



**Total 68**  
 Big Brothers 3  
 Big Sisters 4  
 In School 21  
 After School 10  
 Go Girls 27  
 Big Play 3



#### 2024 In School Volunteer Hours



**Total Hours 22,590**  
 Big Brothers 222  
 Big Sisters 468  
 In School 21,504  
 After School 320  
 Go Girls 48  
 Big Play 28

#### Measurable Outcomes

Social Emotional Competence  
 Mental Health & Wellbeing  
 Educational Engagement & Employment Readiness

Big Brother Big Sisters is also involved in partnering/facilitating a number of opportunities. They are:

- Tim Horton's Camp 3 children
- Create or Play Program 6 children
- Jumpstart, information sent out. Due to new reporting system unsure how many
- Food distribution made available throughout the year, thanks to Salvation Army.
- Numerous activities made available to the children in our program: swimming, Portage Terrier Game, Rainbow Stage, Christmas Party, Canada Film Day and more.
- U. W. Coats for Kids with 221 coats being given away + other winter outerwear.

## ANNUAL REPORT 2024

### STRATEGIC PLAN 2024

**Increase our Impact-** Mentored 68 youth. Volunteer Sustainability.

**Amplify our Voice-** Followed specific social media plan, showed 50<sup>th</sup> video and numerous speaking engagements

**Strengthen our Leadership-** Addition of board member from rural community, specific board and staff training

**Enhance our Sustainability** – 50 Donors for \$50 Campaign a success, Winter Wonderland a new fundraiser.

We had such a wonderful 50<sup>th</sup> year. Thank you for celebrating with us. It is our wish to continue to impact the lives of children for another 50 years+.

Special thanks for our event sponsors!

