

BLOOMING in 2024

ANNUAL REPORT



Big Brothers Big Sisters.
OF SOUTH CENTRAL INDIANA

HELLO Friends, Supporters, and Fellow Gardeners of Change.

If you've ever wondered what happens when you mix a little sunshine, a lot of teamwork, and a dash of bold new ideas - you get the kind of year we just had! In 2024, we didn't just water the same old garden. We grabbed our gloves, got our hands dirty, and tended to the programs, partnerships, and connections that keep us thriving. We focused on nurturing our roots, allowing us to grow and sustain a colorful future for youth in our communities.

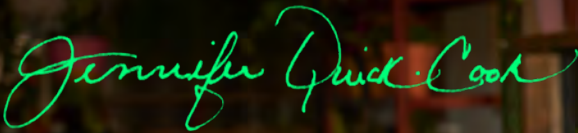
As a result, we created and supported mentoring relationships with more than 200 Littles and witnessed the fruits of their labor: weeding their involvement in risky behaviors, improving academic performance and future planning, decreasing symptoms of depression, anxiety and isolation, enhanced social competencies, and showing up as lively examples of health and happiness.

We dug into some new soil as we prepared for a powerful merger that would expand our service area into a total of 13 counties in Indiana and Kentucky in early 2025. New ideas are sprouting everywhere, programs are blossoming, and our inspired collaborations with other community providers are truly taking hold. **And here's the cherry (tomato 🍅) on top...**

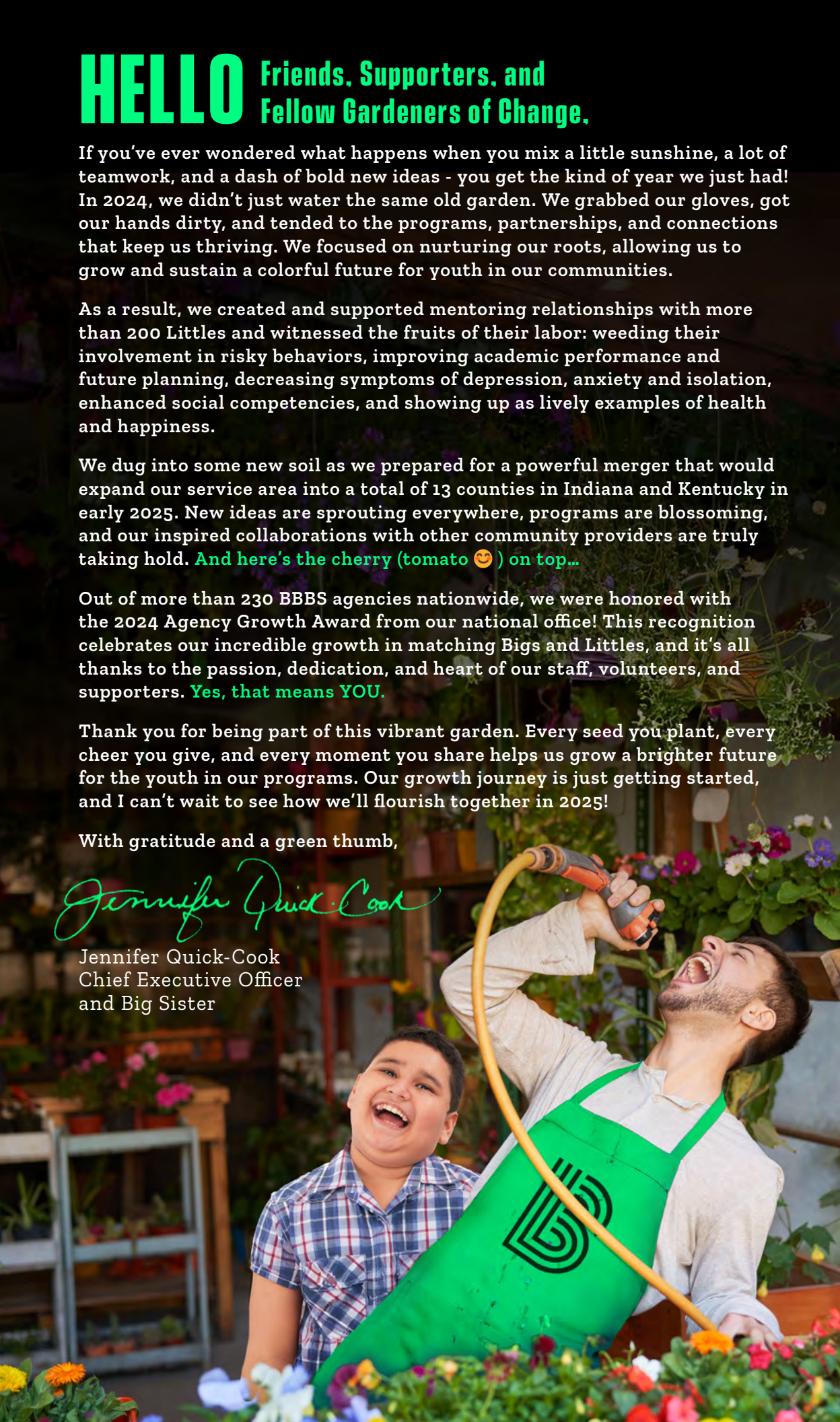
Out of more than 230 BBBS agencies nationwide, we were honored with the 2024 Agency Growth Award from our national office! This recognition celebrates our incredible growth in matching Bigs and Littles, and it's all thanks to the passion, dedication, and heart of our staff, volunteers, and supporters. **Yes, that means YOU.**

Thank you for being part of this vibrant garden. Every seed you plant, every cheer you give, and every moment you share helps us grow a brighter future for the youth in our programs. Our growth journey is just getting started, and I can't wait to see how we'll flourish together in 2025!

With gratitude and a green thumb,



Jennifer Quick-Cook
Chief Executive Officer
and Big Sister



GROUND WORK

Our MISSION

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

Our VISION

All youth achieve their full potential.

Our VALUES

Put kids first.

Show up.

Foster relationships.

Think Big.

Celebrate the Little things.



I can't believe that we have been together for 6 years already!

= Rebecca • Little Sister

BIG ROOTS



In 2024, we tended to our roots and cultivated our garden of programs, helping our agency grow stronger and reach further. With new partnerships taking root and volunteers blossoming, we're branching out to serve more youth and families. As we nurture this growth into 2025, our foundation is thriving and the future looks bright!

We partnered with parents/caregivers, volunteers, schools, and donors in our communities to defend, ignite, and empower the potential of every child we serve.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of America is the nation's largest donor- and volunteer-supported mentoring network. For more than 50 years, **Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Indiana (BBBSCI)** has operated under the belief that inherent in every child is the ability to reach their full potential.



It takes a village and I'm so happy to have her Big as a part of our village.

- Lindsey • Parent/Guardian

A BARREL OF FUN

We have a variety of programs to cultivate and support the mentoring relationships that we know will help all youth reach their full potential.

Community-Based Adult (Bigs) age 18 or older, are matched with Littles in a one-to-one mentoring relationship and spend time together doing activities in their community. Through friendship, Bigs experience the joy of helping children discover a world of opportunities.



Site-Based Adult Bigs, age 18 or older, provide Littles between grades K-12 with one-to-one time and attention with activities or education in local schools during the child's lunch break or enrichment hour.

Big Futures Recognizing that many of our Littles continue to need mentor support after the age of 18, BBBSCI now has an opportunity to continue matches for youth turning 18! Our new program keeps them matched under the guidance of our agency to the age of 25.



I got to be a part of my Big Brother's wedding and even got to sit at their family table!

= Liem "Duc" • Little Brother

THE HARVEST

61 new matches

232 youth engaged

80% of matches last longer than 1 year

21.5 months is the average match duration

100% of Littles feel that their relationship with their Big is very important to them and feel safe with their Big

100% of Littles were able to explore new interests, avoided substance use, and avoided juvenile justice & police contact

48% of Littles saw significant decreases in depressive symptoms

89% of Littles either improve or maintain stable academic performance & school grades with 22.22% showing significant improvements.



Kids are like adults in a kid's body - my Little is very smart and mature.

= Kelsie • Big Sister

CULTIVATION

Bowl for Kids' Sake brought our community together for two days of fun at Classic Lanes in Bloomington, IN. With over 200 people in attendance, we surpassed our fundraising goal and received wonderful feedback from participants who are already looking forward to next year. A heartfelt thank you to Classic Lanes for their generous contribution and support in making this event such a success. Stay tuned for Bowl for Kids' Sake 2025!

Crew for Kids Car Wash was a standout success, bringing Bigs and Littles together for a day of suds, smiles, and community spirit. Special guests like IU Basketball's Malik Reneau, B97 Radio (WBWB 96.7 FM), and Chick-fil-A added to the excitement, making the event even more memorable. Thanks to the generosity of Crew Carwash and everyone who participated, 50% of all Ultimate Wash proceeds went directly to support youth in our programs. We're grateful to Crew Carwash for their ongoing partnership and to everyone who made a difference by joining us for a day of fun and impact!

Old National Bank's **100 Cooks Who Care** brought the Bloomington community together for a night of delicious food, friendly competition, and generous giving at the Monroe Convention Center. Local leaders and supporters became chefs for the evening, serving up their favorite dishes and collecting donations to benefit youth in our programs, as well as The Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington and The Foundation of Monroe County Community Schools.

Guests enjoyed a lively atmosphere filled with great food, creative displays, and plenty of fun. We are so grateful for Old National Bank, our dedicated volunteers, sponsors, and everyone who joined us! This special night had a tremendous impact, encouraging connections and raising critical funds to create brighter futures for young people in our community.

Thank you for making 100 Cooks Who Care 2024 such a memorable and successful event!



My match has reminded me that every single second you spend with someone is so valuable.

= Robert • Big Brother

CREAM OF THE CROP

The State Big & Little of the Year Award Little Sister Sami and Big Sister Sherry

In 2024, The State Big & Little of the Year Award was presented to Little Sister Sami and Big Sister Sherry for their remarkable 6.5-year match. They received this special honor for the dedication and support exemplified in their relationship. Sherry has been essential and steady for Sami as she navigated mental health trials and worked hard to improve her feelings about school. Sami has adamantly expressed her appreciation for her Big Sister, highlighting Sherry's kindness, understanding, and support during the tough times. As a board member and community advocate for BBBS, Sherry's influence has been profound. And the bond that radiates in their match truly exemplifies the power of mentorship and the lasting impact it can have on both lives. We are so proud of Sami and Sherry!

Be More Energized Award Big Brother Sriram

In 2024, the City of Bloomington Volunteer Network honored Big Brother Sriram Srinivasan with the Be More Energized Award in recognition of his outstanding dedication and impact on our agency. As both a Big and the President of the BBBS at IU club, Sriram has been inspirational and instrumental in expanding our reach, helping to recruit more male and college-age mentors. His passion, leadership, and commitment have significantly strengthened our mentoring community for years to come. It is a privilege to work alongside Sriram as he cultivates a community committed to making a lasting difference in the lives of our youth!



The most important thing a Big can do is just ensure that your Little knows that you will be there for them. I know this sounds cliché, but it is true."

— Daniel • Big Brother

DEAR Donors & Volunteers,

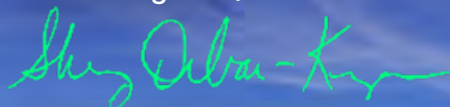
As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with immense gratitude for your unwavering support of Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Indiana. Your dedication, generosity, and time have made an incredible impact on the lives of the children and families we serve. Through your contributions, you have helped us create meaningful mentoring relationships, fostering hope and opportunity for young people in our community.

To our donors, your financial support has been instrumental in allowing us to expand and improve our programs. With your help, we have been able to reach more children in need and ensure they have the guidance and encouragement necessary to thrive. Whether through a one-time gift or ongoing commitment, your generosity is making a lasting difference in shaping the future of countless children.

To our volunteers, your selflessness is at the heart of everything we do. By giving your time and energy to mentor a young person, you are helping to build stronger, more resilient communities. The relationships you create with the children are transformative, and the positive effects of your involvement ripple through families, schools, and neighborhoods.

On behalf of everyone at Big Brothers Big Sisters, thank you for your continued support. As a Big myself, I personally know we could not achieve our mission without you, and we look forward to what we can accomplish together in the years ahead. Your partnership makes all the difference, and we are deeply grateful for everything you do.

Warm regards,



Sherry Dunbar-Kruzan
Board President
and Big Sister



**BECAUSE OF YOU
IT IS POSSIBLE**

FARMERS & FINANCES

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Jennifer Quick-Cook
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dorci Schoolman
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Darby Keller
PROGRAM MANAGER

Christina Keller
COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIP SPECIALIST

Lauren Sullivan
AGENCY SUPPORT SPECIALIST

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Michael Buchanan

Dana Morrison

Chris Finley

EMERITUS MEMBERS
Kelly Abel

Jack Harlow

Frances Hill

EVENTS

Bowl for Kids' Sake	\$58,713.12
100 Cooks Who Care	\$97,163.46
Crew Carwash	\$7,288.66

GRANTS

Government Grants	\$81,140.32
Private Grants	\$57,989.10
Total Grants	139,129.42

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Total Revenue	\$423,246.42
Total Expenditures	\$433,160.63
Net Income	-\$4,914.21

GET INVOLVED HELP PLANT THE SEEDS FOR THE NEXT SEASON



Learn more at
bigsindiana.org/get-involved

Volunteer

Donate

Attend an
Event

Become
a Big

Host a
Field Trip

Join a
Committee

Host a
Field Trip

Lunch
-N-
Learn

Host a
Gift Card
Drive

In-Kind
Donations

Celebrate
With Us



Big Brothers Big Sisters.
OF SOUTH CENTRAL INDIANA

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