



2019 Annual Report

Our Vision

To provide every child in Lanark County who needs a mentor with a mentor.

Our Mission

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County is a not for profit volunteer organization which helps children develop to their unique potential through consistent, dependable and non-conditional adult friendship.

Our Values

We believe all children should be given the opportunity to reach their full potential. In providing these opportunities, the children will enhance their personal development as well as become engaged citizens in their community.

We believe that by changing the course of young lives we can in turn be changing the course of our community's future. That it could lead to a reduction in poverty and unemployment; to safer schools and neighborhoods; to a renewed optimism for growth. We believe that it has the potential to lead to change on a broader, more far-reaching scale.

We believe that opening a child's eyes to "what is" opens his/her mind to "what could be."

We are Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County, and we believe in the value of mentoring.

Board of Directors – 2019

Chair – Kim Sumara
Vice Chair – Brenda Gray
Treasurer – Carole Fuller
Secretary – Laverne Brennan
Past Chair – vacant

Directors

Tammy Edwards, Amanda Neadow, Dawn Risebrough, Nancy Button,
Andrea Hammell, Francine Desjardins, Jennifer Miller

Agency Staff – 2019

Gail Logan – Executive Director
Cliff Woods – Manager of Program Impact and Effectiveness
Angie Beaupre – Agency Promoter/Fund Development Coordinator
Sandra Walker – Jewel's Store Manager Smiths Falls
Sue Norman – Jewel's Store Manager Perth
Bernadette Wilkins – Jewel's Store Manager Carleton Place
Jon Valentin – Supervisor of Program Delivery/Mentoring Coordinator
Natalie Downing – Mentoring Coordinator
Emily Gray – Mentoring Coordinator
Matt Roberge – After School Program Facilitator
Kate Fleming – After School Program Facilitator
Eiryn Harmison – After School Program Facilitator
Bridget Manahan – Manager of Youth Services
Ashley Rankie – Youth ASP Facilitator
Heidi McNeely – Youth ASP Facilitator
April Taillefer – Agency Promoter
Jennifer Hogan – Office Administrator

A fond farewell to:

Gail Logan, and Ashley Rankie – Staff
Tammy Edwards, Amanda Neadow,
Dawn Risebrough, Francine Desjardins – Board

2019 in Pictures

Game On!



WAK



In School Mentoring



Go Girls!



Traditional Bigs



After School Program



Letter from the Board Chair

Submitted by Kim Sumara

I would like to say that I am pleased to be part of this wonderful organization that helps and promotes our youth to be all that they can be. I believe we serve a very worthy clientele that can only help make our community stronger and better.

The past year has been an interesting and challenging one to say the least. We were able to continue to serve our youth, even while being without an ED for three months, many thanks to our great team! We welcomed returning staff member, Sandra Burelli, to the ED position in January of 2020 and she arrived ready to run at the beginning of Bowl for Kids and has not stopped since.

I would like thank our staff, past and present, for their dedication to excellence and serving our wonderful youth! An immense thank you to all of our volunteers who devote their valuable time and energy to BBBSLS in so many different ways.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Sumara

A Letter from the Executive Director

Submitted by Sandra Burelli

After a short hiatus from working with the team and Board of Directors at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County, I returned to take on the position of Executive Director on January 27th, 2020. Auspiciously, the role became available immediately after completing a diploma through McMaster University and I knew I had to jump to re-join the team and agency I had come to know and love working with.

While I did not work with the agency at all for the 2019 year, what I know is that they worked incredibly hard. If the number of kids served isn't enough, you only need to look at the diversity of programming to understand that this agency really does BIG work! I was and still am, incredibly pleased and proud to be working with a team of people who have kids and their wellbeing at the forefront of everything they do.

While my first year here as ED has certainly turned out to be interesting with the on-set of the first global pandemic in over a hundred years, I am eternally grateful to all the leaders, champions, staff and board members who have come before me that put us in a resilient place to forge a path through the storm. 2019 was a year of great service, and 2020 shall be as well, albeit a little differently. What follows is what happened in 2019.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County Mentoring Team Annual Report Submitted by Emily Gray and Natalie Downing

In 2019 Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County served a total 632 children and youth across our mentoring programs including our independent Youth Centre, WAK. The after school program remained strong across the county and we saw an increase in interest in the In School Mentoring program. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County's relationships with community partners continued to be strong allowing us to provide our mentoring programs to children and youth in our community.

In 2019, the Mentoring Team continued to work hard towards coordinating the development of meaningful mentoring relationships within Lanark County. Emily Gray, Natalie Downing and Jon Valentin continued in their roles as Mentoring Coordinators. Cliff Woods remained in the role as Manager of Program Impact and Effectiveness. Matt Roberge continued his work as an After School Program facilitator. Kate Fleming was hired in February 2019 in the role of After School Program facilitator. Eiryn Harmison was hired as a summer student and then as an After School Program facilitator following the completion of her college placement with BBBS of Lanark County in Spring 2019. The 2019 Mentoring Team was a strong and dedicated group of individuals with a shared focus on serving the children and youth within the county with the best mentoring programming that can be offered.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County offered practicum opportunities to college students to complete their required placements. In 2019 we provided spring placements for the last second year class from Perth Campus, Algonquin College Social Services Worker program students. We also provided a college placement for Eiryn Harmison in her college program.

Community Based Program (Big Brother, Big Sister)

The most meaningful mentoring relationship offered by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County is the Community Based program of matching a child one to one with a caring adult mentor as a Big Brother or Big Sister. Growth within this program remains a priority. Our numbers for 2019 showed 18 matches. A total of 18 children and youth were served in Community Based matches. The decrease of community based matches was addressed by staff in 2019 and the mentoring team is committed to expanding and growing the number of community-based matches we have. There will be a continued focus on volunteer recruitment and new strategies to attract more volunteers to this program.

In School Mentoring Program (Adult, Co-op, Youth in Care, College Placement)

Our In School Mentoring program continued to provide one to one mentoring opportunities throughout the county in 2019. Adult ISM served 17 children, Co-op ISM served 15 children, Placement ISM served 20 children. A total number of 52 children were served in the In School Mentoring program.

This number is a slight decrease from 2018 and can be attributed to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County having less college placement students than usual.

Go Girls! Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds

In 2019 the Go Girls! Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds program was offered in 6 different schools serving 55 participants. This decrease can be attributed to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County not having any placement students from Algonquin College Perth in Fall 2019 and also due to a lack of volunteers from the community. Go Girls! continues to be a very popular group program with schools in Lanark County and the mentoring team will address a focused volunteer recruitment strategy for this program.

Game On! Eat Smart Play Smart

In 2019, the Game On! Eat Smart Play Smart program served 29 participants. This is also a very sought-after group program in schools and the mentoring team will be strategizing to recruit male volunteers in order to increase the number of children served through this program.

Canadian Tire After School Program

In 2019 our After-School program offered 8 programs to local schools per semester. A total of 337 children participated in the programs in 2019.

Other Site Based Programs

In the Summer of 2019, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County was once again able to offer a Summer Program out of the Youth Arena in Smiths Falls. The program ran for 8 weeks. The participants were aged 7 to 11 and 66 unique children were served and 82 participants were served all together over the course of the summer as several participants attended more than one week.

The program layout allowed children to choose to attend 2 back to back weeks out of the 8 weeks of programming. Each week of the summer program had a different focus:

Session 1 (week 1 and 2): traditional summer camp

Session 2 (week 3 and 4): sports summer camp

Session 3 (week 5 and 6): arts, crafts and science summer camp

Session 4 (week 7 and 8): traditional summer camp

Legends Mentoring Program

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County participated in the Legends Mentoring Program. This program was an initiative from National to try to serve more children who are on the autism spectrum. In 2019, the Legends mentoring program served 5 participants in Lanark County.

We are Kids

WAK (We Are Kids) Youth Program

Our youth centered WAK program served 70 unique individuals with some months seeing as many as 272 visits to the center with the lowest attendance month being March for a total of 174 visits attributable to March break.

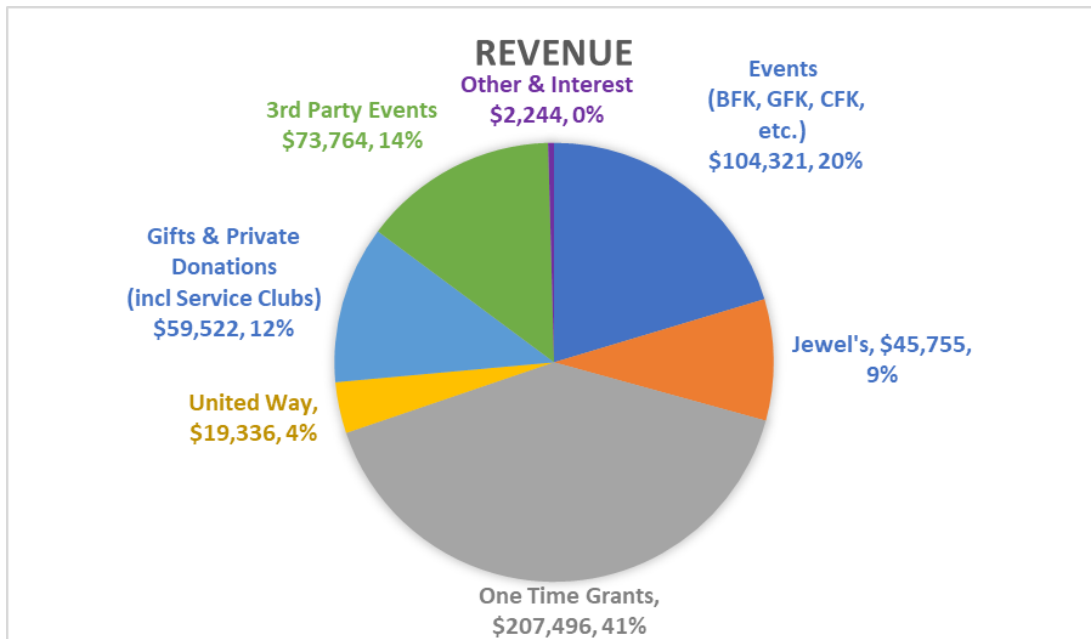
Our core age group served for 2019 was grade 6 to 12, the expanded reach due to parents requesting their grade six and up students be permitted to attend. The range of ages allowed for some diversity in needs that were accommodated through creative programming. Programs included outbound special field trips, in house crafting, third party presentations and learning opportunities, sports, gaming and movie watching, to name only a few.

Fund Development Report Submitted by Angie Beaupre

Fund Development Overview 2019

Big Brothers Big Sisters' agencies in Canada are not funded by the Federal or Provincial government. Our agency locally has been in existence for 47 years, and nationally BBBS has been in Canada for over 100 years. To ensure we provide safe and effective mentoring programs for local children, we employ trained and experienced Social Service Workers.

This care and concern costs money. We have always felt that in order to sustain ourselves over the long haul we need to diversify our sources of funding, so if one year we could not get support from one funder, we didn't put our programming in jeopardy. In 2019 our revenue came from the following sources:



As illustrated, key partners include United Way; three Jewel's Gently Used Clothing stores (BBBS run Social Enterprises), Municipal Support, Grants (including ones from Ministry of Education, Ministry of Tourism, Canada Post, Ministry of Culture and Sport; Canadian Tire Jumpstart, Individuals, Corporations, and Service Clubs.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County is also proud to involve the community in its fundraising through classic events such as Tim Hortons Bowl for Kids Sake (which raised over \$83,870 in 2019), 3M Golf for Kids Sake which raised close to \$16,950), and Tim Hortons/Kinsmen Curl for Kids Sake (which raised almost \$3,501). BBBSLC has found that by diversifying revenue sources the agency is able to continually grow and serve more children and youth.

Committee Reports

Nominating Committee

Submitted by Kim Sumara, Committee Chair

The 2019 nomination committee was made up with Kim Sumara (chair), Andrea Hammel (secretary) and Gail Logan (staff liaison).

The BBBSLC board of directors underwent several changes in the past year. We welcomed new members: Andrea Hammel, Nancy Button, Francine Desjardins and Jennifer Miller. We also received resignations from Francine Desjardins in 2019. We currently have two vacant seats on our board and we are working on filling them.

The nominating committee would like to thank all board members for their dedication to their roles on the board and to the overall mission of BBBSLC!

Respectfully submitted by Kim Sumara

Fund Development Committee

Submitted by Brenda Gray and Jana Ranger, Committee Members

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County (BBBSLC) continues to work hard to diversify its streams of revenue during its 47 years of serving Lanark County community. BBBSLC does not receive sustainable government funding, requiring it to rely on Community Partners to provide the funding needed to raise its entire budget.

Events such as Tim Hortons Bowl for Kids Sake, Tim Hortons and Kinsmen Curl for Kids Sake and the Golf for Kids Sake contributed to 20 percent (104,321.) of the funds raised in 2019. BBBSLC has been fortunate to have members of our staff who are extremely dedicated and hard working to ensure these events were successful, as well as the continued support of Sponsors and participation of the community in these events.

Our Jewel's Gently Used Clothing (thrift stores) continue to be an invaluable Social Enterprise however this year has been a bit more challenging than in the past. An additional Jewel's Gently Used Clothing thrift store in Carleton Place was opened to add to our two existing Jewel's stores in Smiths Falls and Perth. It is unfortunate to report a decision was made to permanently close the Carleton Place store. These stores contributed to 9% (\$45,755.) of our revenue stream which is lower than previous years due to the set-up and closure costs for the Carleton Place location.

BBBSLC has also benefited in 2019 from Ministry of Education, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sports, Canada Post, Canadian Tire and Jump Start funds, and other one-time grants. These grants that staff applied for contributed to approximately 41 percent (\$207,496.) of the 2019 budget.

Furthermore, the United Way has continued to be a key partner, raising community awareness and financially supporting BBBSLC with 4 percent (\$19,336.) of our revenue stream. Another 12 percent of the budget that was raised in 2019 came from private donations and gifts, memorial donations, and service clubs, et. al. Last year there was a great turnout at the Annual Donor Appreciation Breakfast. Individuals and Corporations choosing BBBSLC as their Charity of Choice is key in the agency being able to continue to do impactful work that it does in the community.

One of the main focuses this year of the fund development committee was to focus on 3rd party events to add to the budget. These along with the purse event provided 14 percent (\$73,764.) of the revenue stream.

Interest and other provided the agency with 0% (2,244.) of the budget.

BBBSLC is grateful for all the various streams of funding that it received in 2019, along with the municipal support that continues to grow, as the community has shown their appreciation and recognition of the work that is being done by BBBSLC through mentoring and changing the lives of local children and youth. It is our hope that we can continue to expand and serve more children and youth than ever before.

Governance Committee

Submitted by Laverne Brennan, Committee Chair

The committee had two meetings during my time on the board with Cliff Woods taking the lead.

We reviewed and recommended approval from the Board of the following:

- Media Policy
- Amended CRM Policy

Finance Committee

Submitted by Carole Fuller, Committee Chair

Although the AGM is about the 2019 financial efforts and results of the Agency, I feel we would be remiss in not addressing the significant events since year end due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Our historical practice over the last ten years of committing prior year surplus funds to the subsequent year's budget was the salvation of the Agency as we dealt with the financial impacts of Covid-19. We finished the year end with a surplus. This cushion allowed us to carry on in 2020 when all major sources of revenue were impaired.

To recap 2019, we did see a decline in the February 2019 bowling event from the prior year, but have seen increased revenues in 2020. With the best laid plans we opened a third Jewels store in Carleton Place which saw us invest in our future. Sadly, with the challenges facing us in 2020, we could not give the store a three - year start and had to close the doors in June 2020.

Our dedicated staff always rise to the challenge and when given the concerns, they managed to accomplish providing services with less money.

Community partners along with local businesses continued to add to the success with fundraising events and donations.

And we would never want to forget what doesn't show up on the financial statement and that would be the value of the time that all of our volunteers commit and our staff who go above and beyond.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Fuller
