

# Big Brothers Big Sisters® OF NORTHWESTERN OHIO

# NEWSLETTER

## UPCOMING EVENTS

July 24, 2021- African American Festival

Aug 1, 2021- End of Summer Picnic at the Mud Hens

Aug 8, 2021- Police/Kids Mountain Bike Skills Camp- Slow Roll Ride

Aug 14, 2021- Communicating Across Counties

Aug 21, 2021- African American Male Wellness Walk

TBA- End of Year Banquet

## BIGS IN BLUE

The Bigs in Blue program is focused on building relationships between law enforcement and the communities they serve. The program places each child in a mentoring relationship with a law enforcement officer, which builds a bridge between the community and law enforcement. The BIB programs vary depending on the proprieties, resources, and needs of local communities and share the same goal of strengthening relationships between police and communities through one-on-one mentoring relationships.



## VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT

Looking for ways to volunteer in your community? Big Brothers Big Sisters has multiple ways for you to get involved and change lives. We are looking for hardworking, dependable role models in the community to help us defend the potential in every child.

One way is to become a Big, which allows you to have a one-to-one mentoring relationship with a youth in the community. Another way is to become a volunteer within the organization that can help behind the scenes at the agency. This can involve helping with fundraisers, events, and so much more! Be on the lookout for BBBSNWO at local community events.



# PROGRAMMING

Beyond School Walls (BSW) is a new program that will be launching September 1st 2021. BSW addresses the gap in workforce readiness programming by engaging youth in grades 6-12 in an office setting for regular, one-to-one meetings with professional mentors within the partner company. Youth will learn firsthand the skills such as financial literacy, STEM, social-emotional skill development they would need to succeed in the partner company and can explore career options that may have otherwise been unknown to them.



[bbbsnwo.org](http://bbbsnwo.org)



@bbbsnwo



Big Brothers Big Sisters  
of Northwestern Ohio



## WAYS TO HELP

We don't thank you enough for everything you do, but we ARE thankful. Because of volunteers, participants, and donors like you we not only survived, but we thrived last year. Now we need to ask for even more. Who do you know that can help us go even further—your best friend, uncle, neighbor? There are a lot of Littles in our area who still need someone to step up and be a friend. We need you to tell your stories to everyone who will listen so we can get them matched! If they don't think they are "Big" material, they can support local kids by volunteering or by helping to fund our programs. Those who would rather be monetary supporters have the ability to make monthly donations right from our website.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Get ready for here we come!! BBBSNWO is on the move. We are reconnecting to the community, getting involved and letting you know what we are doing and how you can become engaged. Community engagement is all about establishing and developing meaningful and lasting connections. Look to our social media accounts and website for upcoming events and opportunities. We look forward to sharing, connecting and making long term and lasting partnerships and friendships.

Spread the word – Big Brothers Big Sisters is the easiest way to make a real difference in the life children right here in Northwestern Ohio.



# MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwestern Ohio is entering the midway point of its 2020-2023 Strategic Plan. I'm very excited to share with you the milestones we have reached. As an organization that values supporting both our youth and the communities we serve, failure to achieve our goals was not an option.**

**We have met, and some cases, exceeded expectations in the three areas of our 2020 Vision of Clarity, Creativity, and Sense of Purpose. To ensure clarity, we frequently update stakeholders with our goals, processes, and status through letters, TV & Radio interviews, virtual meetings, website updates, and social media.**

**During a time of crisis associated with COVID19, we demonstrated our creativity in service delivery and fundraising by developing virtual capabilities. I am proud to say that my team exceeded the expectations and requirements of their assigned grants. Additionally, they continue to work hard to meet the increase in demand for service due to the pandemic.**

**We enhanced service delivery with a sense of purpose and are in the last stages of improving our technical capabilities and hardening internal security. We have built and formed a cohesive team. Members possess a minimum of a bachelor's degree in their area of expertise and attend weekly training designed to enhance their skill sets.**

**I want to emphasize that there are still many goals we seek to achieve, but I wanted to take a moment to acknowledge accomplishments, thank the community for its support and my team for their hard work and dedication to public service.**

**We look forward to having the opportunity to continue to offer you the exceptional service you've come to expect from us.**

**Warm regards,**

**Dr. Marvin Whitfield  
President/CEO**

