FOR KIDS, FOREVER.

For the future of mentorship for kids.

FOR KIDS, FOREVER
— Endowment —

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central MN

$10 MILLION TO SUPPORT BIG DREAMS

More than fifty years ago, local leaders had a vision to help kids through the power of mentorship. Together, they planned and raised funds to build Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Minnesota. Thanks to their vision and determination, our agency has been able to create more than 10,000 matches since 1969.

Our mentoring program changes lives - like the lives of Eric and Lee Hurd, and their Little, Caleb. Caleb came into Eric and Lee's life when he was just nine after his father - a veteran of the Iraq War - tragically died. More than 10 years later, Caleb is in college, and Lee and Eric continue to support him through texts and calls, and the occasional trip to Nashville to visit their now-adult Little.

With your investment, we can continue to provide mentors for kids so they can build the tools they need for success in school, to pursue fulfilling careers, and to have the self-confidence needed to be leaders in their home communities.

Together, We are Defenders of Potential.

WHY AN ENDOWMENT?

TO EXPAND OUR REACH...

We have established deep roots in Central Minnesota and have developed a well-known and respected program. Having an endowment gives BBBS the opportunity to expand our reach to unserved and underserved communities.

This not only includes creating a **stronger presence** in our more rural communities, but also **digging deeper** into larger communities we are currently serving such as St. Cloud, Elk River, and Monticello. The vision of expanding our reach also means implementing creative initiatives developed by BBBS leadership to be more responsive to the equity and inclusion needs of our diverse community.

...AND CREATE A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE.

We are securing commitments to build a $10 million endowment to insure our current operations and to enable us to **adapt and grow**. Building a $10 million endowment fund will bring in critical dollars to fund our mission in the future. A $400,000 draw off the interest earned will enable us to be there for Bigs and Littles in the years to come.

Big Brothers Big Sisters is a proven community treasure, and we know the need for our mentoring program will be there in the future. With your gift to our endowment, you can leave a legacy of **positivity**, **potential**, and **mentorship** for our Littles in the years to come.

We have an impact on 3 CORE AREAS in a child's life

95% OF OUR LITTLES HAVE IMPROVED THEIR SELF CONFIDENCE BECAUSE OF THEIR BIG BROTHER OR SISTER.

97% OF OUR LITTLES HAVE SHOWN IMPROVEMENT IN THEIR ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE.

94% OF OUR LITTLES HAVE IMPROVED THEIR ATTITUDES TOWARD RISKY BEHAVIORS.

THE TRAUT FAMILY: LEAVING A LEGACY

Mark Traut was first introduced to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Minnesota when his sister, Ann, became a mentor to Heidi. Ann included Heidi in the Traut family gatherings, and he got to see first-hand the impact of a young person being matched with a mentor. More than 30 years later, Heidi still speaks fondly of Ann. "Ann was more than my Big Sister, she was my best friend and my true sister," Heidi said. "I loved her like no one else."

After Ann tragically passed away from an auto accident, Mark decided to honor his sister's memory through his involvement and support of BBBS. In 2019, Mark became a Big Brother to Carter. He says that Carter taught him patience and understanding of others, and he feels he is more compassionate after being a Big Brother.

Mark has chosen to further his support by bestowing Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Minnesota with a legacy gift in his estate planning. He has been aware of the positive influence of the program as far back as 1982, and continues to see it to this day. **"The positive impact that BBBS and the Bigs and Littles have on each other and their future are more important today than ever."**

FOR KIDS, FOREVER

NEXT STEPS

- Speak with professional advisors about your priorities.
- Contact Legacy@BigDefenders.org with questions
- Scan the QR code to see all the **ways to give**.

WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?

BigDefenders.org

FOR KIDS, FOREVER Endowment
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central MN

320.253.1616