



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of the 7 Rivers Region

Our mission: To effectively match children with caring mentors to share time, experiences, friendship and fun that help children become caring, confident, competent adults.

Winona Community Based Mentoring:

- Volunteer Big Brothers, Big Sisters and Big Couples are matched one to one with a child aged 6 – 14 who can benefit from additional adult support and attention. Volunteers are carefully screened, and matched with a child who will share their interests.
- Matches spend 2-3 hours together each week for at least one year doing things they both enjoy.
- Our average match lasts about 2 years! The average community based match spends 150 hours together each year.
- In 2010, 130 children experienced the magic of a caring connection with a Big.
- Community Based programming serves all of Winona county.

School Based and Site Based Programming:

- Site based matches meet at a school or at a before- or after-school program for about one hour per week throughout the school year.
- High school and college students mentor elementary school students at Madison, W-K, and Jefferson schools in Winona, and Lewiston-Altura schools.
- In 2010, 70 children were matched through school or site based mentoring.

Other Info:

- Big Brothers Big Sisters has served the Winona area for 12 years, nationally for more than 100 years.
- Big Brothers Big Sisters is proven to be effective in helping kids make positive and healthy choices—better school attendance and performance, better relationships with peers and family, less likely to use alcohol or other drugs
- The cost to make and support a match for one year averages \$1,000.
- Big Brothers Big Sisters is funded by the United Way (24%), grants (9%), individual and corporate donations (13%), and fundraising events like Bowl for Kids' Sake (41%), along with other contributions (13%).

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Little Moments. Big Magic. Huge Impact!