

# BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF CENTRAL PLAINS, INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2023



#### VISION

All young people realize their full potential

#### MISSION

Enable life-changing mentoring relationships to ignite the power and potential of young people.

#### VALUE

Providing children with a respectful and safe environment of trust, with positive presence and compassion, while maintaining confidentiality, integrity, transparency and sound business practices.

## **Theory of Change**

To build Developmental Relationship between the mentee and mentor so that the five elements: Express Care, Challenge Growth, Provide Support, Share Power and Expands Possibilities, may lead to outcomes for the child that will increase their potential.

# Land Acknowledgement

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Plains operates on Treaty No. 1 Territory, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples; as well as the homeland of the Metis Nation. We respect the Treaties formed on these territories, and acknowledge that We Are All Treaty People.

# President's Report 2023 – Janice Laurent

2023 has brought forth a year of planning for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as we look forward and are excited to celebrate the big year ahead including special events that will bring our community together.

2023 has been a year that has brought forth some new ideas that included taking part in the Kairos blanket Exercise, offering a first aide class and planning for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Dawn and Laura continue to implement programming, do fundraising and execute new ideas. Programs such as Go Girls, After School mentoring and the fuse programs continue to be offered to our youth. Our youth continue to connect with the Terriers hockey team. Building our mentors and connecting them with our youth continues to be a goal BBBS strives towards.

Once again, the board prioritize goals from the strategic plan to move our program forward. Thanks to Dawn's reporting each month the board was able to understand where we were at and what plans we could put in place to move forward. Thanks, Dawn, for keeping us informed and moving BBBS forward.

Our financials have remained steady, even when faced with member ship dues increases, we were able to continue with our fundraisers. The Duck race and Sip Support Survive and our Portage T-shirts fundraisers have helped support BBBS. We also have continued with some of our older fundraisers. That have included Big Brothers Big Sister's week at MCC, and Duck race. Our newest fundraiser was Pizza Day as we partnered with Boston Pizza.

We continue to look for new fundraiser ideas to support BBBS. This year has brought forth our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in 2024 and we are looking forward to celebrating each month with different events, Thanks to Laura and Dawn for your hard works and dedication. We are grateful to be able to continue to with the fuse program and thanks to many of our sponsors for making that possible. We are lucky enough to build new partnerships with businesses such as Boston Pizza. Funding from the Federal (Summer Student Grant) and Provincial governments have also helped make our programming possible.

A shout out to our board members who have worked hard to move BBBS forward and realizing how important BBBS is to our youth and community. Thanks for your hard work and dedication. Welcome to our new board member Donovan. Thanks, Bryce, for your past year as a board member we are sad to see you go.

I would like to welcome your new chairperson Rhonda Lyle who will be taking over and I wish her all the best. I would like to thank Laura and Dawn for making it so easy. I am excited to see where BBBS goes next and what the future holds for BBBS.



# Executive Directors Report 2023 – Dawn Froese

An interesting year of ups and downs. We'll start with the challenges. Bowl for Kids Sake did not do well. Insurance and Membership dues went up. Some schools moved to a balanced school day which is great for the students but has made it difficult for our teens mentors to meet students on their lunch.

The ups, Community Foundation of Portage & District awarded us a grant that allowed us to make a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary video. There was/is a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary committee who worked all year planning for 2024. Thank you, team.

We were able to start Go Girls in Langruth and Austin and to continue In School Mentoring in MacGregor, Gladstone and Portage. Go Girls also continued in Oakville. Big Play and Fuse both ran again in Portage with Go Girls being run as a summer day camp. Thank you to all our volunteers – you are amazing and we would not exist without you.

Thank you to Laura Spelliscy who works beside me for always thinking what is best for the children we serve. Thank you to the board, who provides oversight and encouragement. I am proud of the work we did in 20223, and pressing forward into 2024 am excited to celebrate 50 years.

# Strategic Plan/Action Plan 2023

#### Increase our Impact

Increased children served from 40-50, ending the year with 76 children mentored. Small Group programs: fuse, Go Girls, Big Play Volunteer Appreciation

## Amplify our Voice

Continued to use social media and local media to promote BBBS and the work we do. Developed 50<sup>th</sup> video and communication plan for 2024 Newsletter stories with outcomes/impact

#### Strengthen our Leadership

Acquired 2 new board members Board training: Strategic Planning, Board Roles & Responsibilities, Kairos Blanket exercise, Financial Responsibility Staff attended National Convention

## **Enhance our Sustainability**

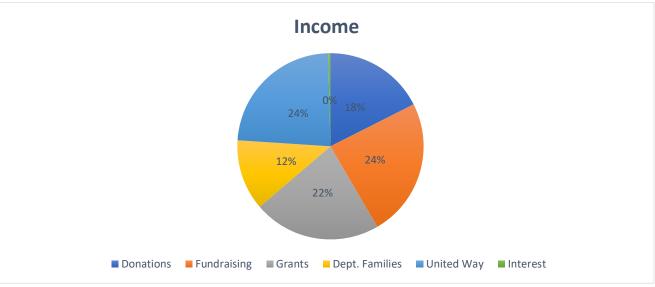
Met with United Way Prepare for 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

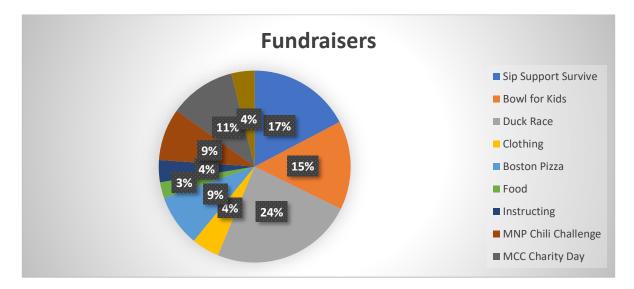
# **ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE:**

- Board, ED, staff Evaluations were complete
- Reviewed: Insurance & policy, Risk Manual, Succession Plans, Crisis Management Plan, Strategic Action Plan, Strategic Plan, Human Resource Policy, By-Laws, Job Descriptions,
- Accepted 1 new board members

# FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE:

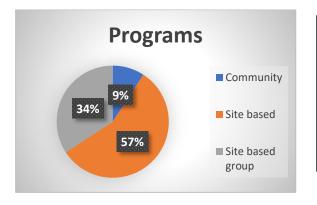


Thank you to our funding partners Department of Families (Government of MB) & United Way Brandon (United Way in Central Plains)



Thank you to all the businesses and individuals who made this year a success!

# PROGRAM



Site Based Mentoring 1:1 includes: In School Mentoring, After School Mentoring (43)
Site Based Group includes: Go Girls, Big Possibilities (fuse), Big Play (26)
Community Based 1:1 includes: Big Brothers, Big Sisters, (7)

**Total Children Mentored: 79** 

Measurable Outcomes Social Emotional Competence Mental Health & Wellbeing Educational Engagement & Employment Readiness

## Board of Directors 2023 Year

Janice Laurent, Susan Mitchell, Rhonda Lyle, Shasta St. Louis, Colleen Flynn, Darrell Lee, Bryce Moar, Donnovan Hillman

Thank you for your service to the youth of our community.



Friendships continue beyond 18.

Special thanks you to the following: 4 Imprint, Boston Pizza, Canadian Tire, City of Portage, Chicken Chef, Community Foundation of Portage and District, Dead Horse Cider Co., Dept. of Families (Prov. of MB), Dunn Chrysler, Goldeyes Field of Dreams Foundation, Homestead, HUB, Co-Op, Janzen's Paint & Decorating, Jones & Co., MCC, McCains Foundation, Mil-Jeanne Flowers & Axcenz, Mikes, PCRC, MNP, Portage Lions Club, Portage Mutual Insurance Co., Prairie Abattoir, RM of Portage, Taste of Spice, United Way,