

OUR MISSION

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts has over 60 years of experience fostering professionally supported one-on-one friendships between young people and adult mentors. With research and proven outcomes at its core, the organization is working to ensure every child has the support from caring adults that they need for healthy development and success in life.

THE PROGRAM

BBBS volunteers hang out with their mentee one-to-one for a few hours every other week and enjoy an activity in the community. Whether it's riding a bike, taking a walk, playing catch, cooking a meal, or just hanging out - the time spent together will surely be memorable! This is a free program and our professionally trained staff provides ongoing support to Big/Little matches through regular contact with all participants. Matches are designed to last at least a year though most continue for much longer.

IMPACT & OUTCOMES

A landmark national independent research study showed that children matched with a Big Brother or Sister for at least one year are powerfully and positively impacted:

- 46% less likely than their peers to use drugs
- 27% less likely to start drinking alcohol
- 52% less likely to skip school
- More trusting of their parents
- Feel more competent about doing schoolwork

THE YOUTH

We enroll youth ages 7 to 12. They must want to be a part of the program and be able to benefit from an additional positive adult influence in their lives.

THE VOLUNTEERS

Big Brothers and Big Sisters are 18 years of age and older. They come from a huge range of backgrounds, cultures, and life experiences. They are all responsible, compassionate, and caring adults who want to help a child reach their full potential. Our Bigs are extensively screened by our professionally trained staff before being accepted to the program, including in-depth personal interviews, references checks, and criminal background checks

HOW WILL MY CHILD BE MATCHED WITH A BIG?

A BBBS staff member will meet with you and your child at your home to gather information regarding his/her interests, personality, strengths, needs and basic family information. If you have preferences regarding the kind of Big who may be matched with your child, BBBS honors those preferences to ensure a meaningful and comfortable mentoring experience for you, your child, and the Big.

WHEN WILL MY CHILD BE MATCHED?

BBBS will enroll a child when we believe they have a great chance of matching them in 6 months based on available volunteers and other families waiting. Call for more information about wait times in your area.



For any questions or if you need assistance in Spanish please contact:
Jenny Bautista, 617-956-0205

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Boston, MA 02110
617.542.9090
emassbigs.org | @emassbigs



ATTENTION FAMILIES!



WE ARE NOW ENROLLING YOUTH AGES 7-12 IN YOUR AREA!
WE DEFEND, INSPIRE, AND EMPOWER **POTENTIAL.**

Hello,

During this time of social distancing, school and business closures and staying home as much as possible, being part of a mentoring relationship is more important than ever before. Safety is our top priority and we want to ensure that we can still enroll families and volunteers. We're offering virtual enrollments so you are ready to be matched with your mentor when our lives return back to normal.

Interested in learning more? Submit an inquiry at www.emassbigs.org

Sincerely,

 **Big Brothers Big Sisters.**
OF EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS