



# Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay's 2007 Annual Report



# Message from the CEO and 2007 Board Chair

Dear Friends,

We are proud to share with you the information in this 2007 Annual Report. You are a big part of our organization and a big part of our success in putting so many smiles on the faces of so many children in the communities we serve. Smiles are, of course, just one of our outcomes! We have many more, including the fact that over 94% of our children are promoted to the next grade. That statistic usually gets everyone smiling!

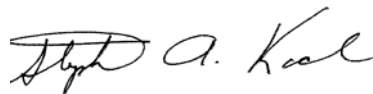
We are trying to focus more on children who could benefit the most from the friendship of a Big Brother or a Big Sister. Children with a long-term incarcerated parent are very high on our list...without the intervention of a caring adult in their young lives, these children have a very high likelihood of being in prison themselves someday. We would also like to be doing more for foster kids who are going to “age-out” of our foster care system in a few years—these are kids who have no one else to look out for them. It is hard to imagine.

We know we need to be doing more. Our job won't be done until we reach our goal of providing a Big Brother or a Big Sister to every child that needs and wants one. We take this goal very seriously...it is more than words on a page. Thousands of community volunteers are already working to make it a reality. If you are one of them, thank you. If you are not, please join us.

Very Truly Yours,



Bill Nipper  
2007 Board Chair



Stephen A. Koch  
Chief Executive Officer



Big Brother Bill, Little Brother Edward, Little Sister Kaira and Big Sister Mary at the Gasparilla Parade



Big Brother Stephen and Little Brothers Jon and Richard on a trip to Cypress Gardens.

**“I’ve been given the opportunity to make a difference in a child’s life. Thank you!”  
- Big Sister**

**“He is out of the shadows now. He is his own man.”  
- Big Brother describing his Little who is now in college at FSU.**

**“This was a wonderful experience that has forever changed my life, so thank you for the wonderful match.”  
- Big Sister**

## **Mission Statement**

To help children reach their potential through professionally supported, one-to-one relationships with measurable impact.

## **Vision Statement**

To provide a successful mentoring relationship for all children who need and want one, contributing to brighter futures, better schools, and stronger communities for all.

## **Accomplishments**

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay earned the Business of the Year Award from the Tampa Bay Business Journal, for not-for-profit businesses in the category of Public and Societal Benefit.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay provided a Big Brother or Big Sister to 2311 children in 2007, which was a 5% increase over 2006.

## **Goals for 2008**

To serve 2500 children with a Big Brother or a Big Sister volunteer in 2008, which is an 8.2% increase over our 2007 match numbers.

To increase the number of male volunteers through our new Sports Buddies Program.



Big Sister Joanne and Little Sister Alexis enjoying some crafts.

**“This last year has had a very positive impact on my child as a result of the perfect match.”**  
- Parent of Little

**“I can’t say enough about Dan. He has continually been a great role model for Ben. A man who is responsible, respectful with great integrity – this is a wonderful influence – I see my son following.”**  
- Parent describing Big

# Big Brothers Big Sisters Programs

## Community-Based Program

The volunteer meets with their Little Brother or Sister to share activities they both enjoy, on their own schedule. The best activities are low-cost or no-cost activities such as riding bikes, playing board games, baking cookies, walking, hiking, or going to a local ball game. We ask that volunteers spend nine hours a month with their Little.

*Within our Community-Based Program we offer a variety of specific programs including a program for children affected by domestic violence and a program for children of incarcerated parents. We also launched a new program, "Sports Buddies," that allows matches to connect through sports.*

## Bigs In Schools Program

The volunteer meets with their Little Brother or Sister one hour a week during the school day, on school grounds or at an after-school center. They might hang out and shoot hoops, eat lunch in the cafeteria, read books in the media center, or review homework while sitting at picnic tables outside.



Big Brother Dylan and Little Brother Jajuan take part in our Bowl For Kids' Sake fundraiser.

Big Brothers Big Sisters is the oldest youth mentoring organization in the United States.

Our brand of mentoring has been recognized as one of the most effective life-changing experiences available that has proven outcomes to reduce risky behaviors.

There are more than 65,000 at-risk youth in our community who could benefit from a mentor.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay serves Hillsborough, Pasco, and Polk Counties.

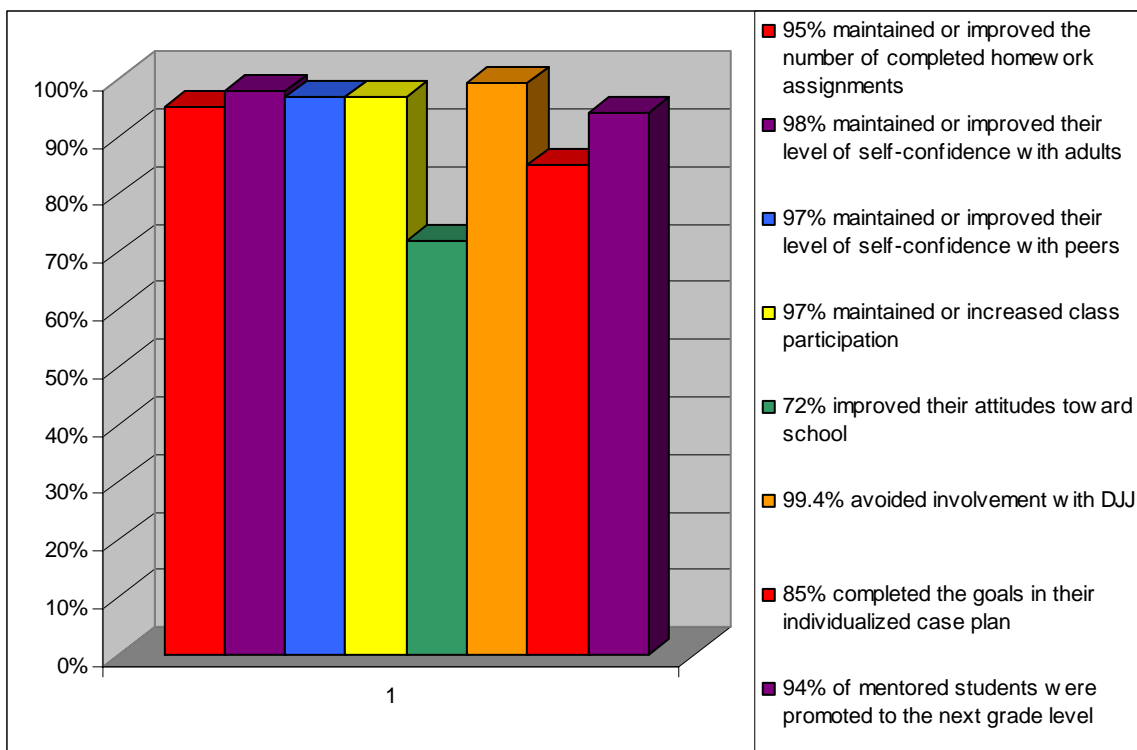
# Evaluation

**At Big Brothers Big Sisters we pride ourselves on the positive measurable results accomplished through our programs. In order to determine these results, we have the following evaluation tools in place:**

- Each of the families we serve complete an in-home family assessment by a Family Specialist. This information allows for insight into the home environment.
- The Program Outcome Evaluation is used to follow academic progress, improvements in self-confidence, attitudes towards school and relationships with family and peers.
- The Department of Juvenile Justice checks annually to determine if any of our clients have had involvement with the juvenile justice system.
- Risk Factor Assessment Tools are used to track changes in the risk factors affecting the family and offer appropriate referral sources.
- The Program Based Outcome Evaluation is used to specifically measure the effects of a mentoring relationship. The POE is a twenty-one question retrospective analysis of the key elements of developmental progress toward becoming a confident, competent and caring individual.

Children who are at-risk often lack exposure to life-enriching activities and need support in making good, healthy decisions. Left untouched, these at-risk youth are more likely to have increased unexcused absences in school, have a lower perceived scholastic competence, as well as have poor attitudes toward school.

# The Results



**As of January 1, 2008 there were over 600 children waiting to be matched with a Big Brother or Big Sister.**

# Fundraisers

**Bowl For Kids' Sake** is a bowl-a-thon and a great way to have a ball and support children in need in our community. Participants in this event form bowling teams of five people and collect pledges from co-workers, friends and family with a goal of raising \$1,000 per team. Teams then bowl one complimentary game, with free food, drink, and prizes at our thank you party.



Big Sister Amanda (in pink) and Little Brother Taevon with their Bowl For Kids' Sake team.

**Art of Helping Children Gala** is an exciting evening complete with dazzling works by select popular artists, live entertainment, sumptuous food, and a martini bar. Auction items include beautiful works of art, travel packages, sports memorabilia, and other must-haves.



Leadership Council Member, Hugh Miller and wife Deborah posing with artist Michael Israel after bidding on his Statue of Liberty piece.

**Clays for Kids** is an outdoor athletic event that is fun for all levels of sporting clays shooters! The event also includes the chance to bid on exciting silent auction items, the opportunity to buy shotgun raffle tickets, and a free BBQ lunch.



Big Couple Karen and John enjoying the outdoors with CEO Stephen Koch at the Inaugural Clays for Kids fundraiser.

## By the numbers...

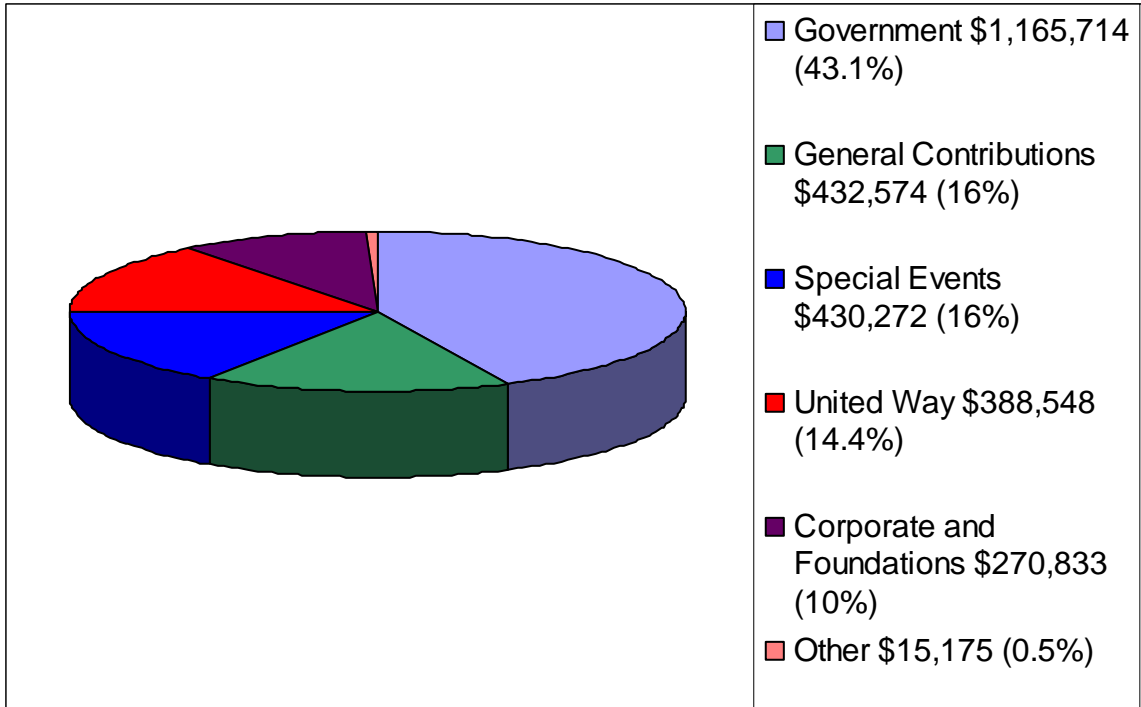
It costs \$22,666 for one year of outpatient substance abuse rehabilitation.

It costs \$59,078.90 for a child to spend one year in the juvenile justice system.

It only costs \$1,000 to provide a child with a Big Brother or Big Sister mentor.

# Financial Statements:

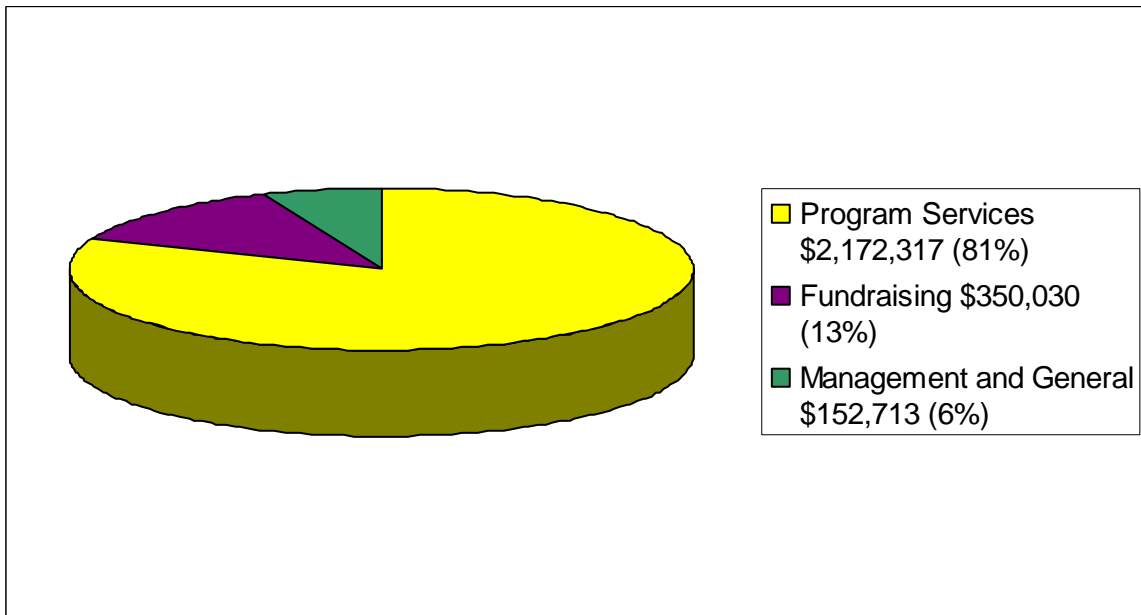
## Revenue (\$2,703,116):



In our lives, each of us was encouraged by someone—other than our parents—who broadened our horizons and brought a little magic into our lives. At Big Brothers Big Sisters you can do the same for a child.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay is the largest Big Brothers Big Sisters agency in the state of Florida.

## Expenses (\$2,675,060):



Bigs and Littles have fun together and create lasting memories we call “Little Moments...Big Magic.”

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## In a Big's Words...

I initially became a Big Sister in the school based program in order to satisfy a requirement for an education course that I was taking at a local community college. Not knowing what I was getting myself into, I met my Little Sister, Amanda, at her elementary school. I thought to myself, this will only be for the school year. Little did I know what impact this experience would have not only on my Little, but on myself as well.

It was a slow start for Amanda and me. Having children of my own, I did not understand why a person would need a Big Sister. We spent our time playing games but she did not talk very much to me no matter how much I tried! I thought I could never get through to her until one day, we clicked. As I did every Thursday, I picked her up from the end of her recess and she ran up to me and gave me the biggest hug! It was as if we had been together forever! I held back the tears at this point, not wanting her to see me cry.

Amanda has done nothing but progress in all areas of her life. Her grades have improved and her attendance has been fantastic. She is completely open with me most times and I have learned her moods and know when something is bothering her. One of the most memorable experiences was when the principal of the school went out of his way to say thank you to me for Amanda's progress. The tears could not be held back this time.

Although there have been many high points to our relationship, there will always be something higher to accomplish. I want nothing more for Amanda to succeed in everything she does. Since she is going to middle school next year, I will change my "Big Sisterhood" to the community-based program and hope that I can continue to make a difference in her life as she has made on mine. So in fact, the highest point in our relationship is yet to come.

- Written by Big Sister Diane



Big Sister Diane and Little Sister Amanda getting to know each other in our Bigs in Schools Program. 8

## Meet our Board of Directors:

Brian Auld	Tampa Bay Rays
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Beth Bennett	Brown and Brown
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**“Community is very important. Big Brothers Big Sisters gives us the opportunity to help local children get the mentorship, friendship and even leadership they may be lacking.”**  
**- Rob Kress of Irena’s Heating and Cooling, Clays for Kids Sponsor**

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay has been serving at –risk children locally since 1964.**

**95% of the children we serve live at or below the federal poverty level guidelines and reside in low income housing.**

## Meet our Leadership Councils:

### Hillsborough Leadership Council

Stephanie Biernacki	Carol LeHenaff
Michael Board	Michael Levin
Bill Bowles	Scott Lewis
Renee Brown	Meredith Lukoff
Lauren Bryant	Michael Lynch
Cindy Carr	Kimberly Madison
Cristiane Carvalho	Devin Marks
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Adam Horn	Caren Sversky
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Andrew Laflin	Christine Weber

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David Chamberlin	Michael Osadchey
Traci Czyznik	Kelley Scott
John Eagle	Carol Strammiello
Stephanie Fridley	Sabine Vasquez
Lyndsay McCaslin	Greg Wiseman

### Polk County Community Resource Board

Debbie Chambless	Christina Moore
Rob Crowley	Rachel Pleasant
Amanda Dunivan	Sarah Sesser
Daniel Gilbert	Kelly Tallent
Isaac Hartman	

**“Being a Big is a wonderful experience that will change your life.”**

**“My daughter needed a positive role model—she found one, her Big Sister.”**

**“It’s an opportunity to make a difference in a child’s life.”**

**“TJ has made Gary a part of his family. When they were first matched, Gary was single and had no children. Now he is married with a child of his own and still makes time to see Gary every month. He even asked Gary to be his best man at his wedding in 2003.”**  
**-Support Specialist describing a match**

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## Meet our Partners:

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Associated Marine Institute  
Bailey Family Foundation  
Bay Area Youth Services  
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Centre for Women/Centre for Girls  
Children's Board of Hillsborough County  
Citi  
City of Lakeland  
City of Tampa  
City of Winterhaven  
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CONN Foundation  
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DTCC  
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Florida Department of Corrections  
Florida Department of Juvenile Justice  
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Girls Inc.  
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Hillsborough County State Attorney's Office  
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Orlando Magic Youth Foundation  
PACE Centre for Girls  
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Pasco County Sheriff's Office  
Pasco County State Attorney's Office  
Pasco Hernando Community College  
Pease River Center  
PLACE  
Plan City Chamber of Commerce  
Polk County Government  
Polk County Sheriff's Office  
Polk County State Attorney's Office  
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Sansone Foundation  
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School District of Pasco County  
School District of Polk County  
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Success 4 Kids and Families  
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United Way of Pasco County  
United Way of Tampa Bay  
University of South Florida  
University of Tampa  
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Warner Southern  
Webster College  
Wesley Chapel Chamber of Commerce  
Winterhaven Chamber of Commerce  
YES Pasco  
YMCA  
Young Lawyers Division of Hillsborough Bar Assoc.



## Little Moments Big Magic Society:

Linda Allen

Jeff and Robyn Andras

Brian Auld

Bailey Family Foundation

Stuart Bean

Beth Bennett

Guy and Carol Bennett

M. Hunt Berryman

John and Karen Eagle

Mark Fernandez

Elizabeth and Troy Fowler

Mary Gamble

Robert Gries

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Lee Mike Hanna

R.J. and April Haughey

Kathleen Heide

David Karp

David and Liz Kennedy

Wrede Kirkpatrick

Stephen Koch

Jim & Alexandra Lange

Patriva Mack

Tracy McPhail

Bill & Mary Nipper

Rays Baseball Foundation

Kenneth Rupp

Rodney & De Anna Sheffield Ward

Peter Shute

Teri Simpson

Cathy Unruh

Victory Church

V. Lynn Woods

**What our  
Littles have  
to say about  
their Bigs:**

“He made me  
feel special  
when he came  
to see me.”

“She is fun  
and nice. She  
doesn’t judge  
me.”

“He pays  
attention to  
what I say.”

“Tony is my  
best friend.”

“She is always  
there for me  
when I need  
her.”



Big Sister Diana and Little Sister  
Jamie *hanging-out*.

# Meet our Sponsors:



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April and R.J. Haughey,  
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SunTrust, Summit Consulting, TECO, The  
Bank of Tampa,  
Thompson Sizemore Gonzalez & Hearing,  
and Wachovia.**

## Meet our Staff:

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Amy Mitchell  
Amy Neff  
Bonnie Mangione  
Carla Tommie  
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Chathay Washington  
Chris Popp  
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Stephen Koch  
Tani Gray  
Tanya Davis  
Teri Simpson  
Victoria Serrano



The Big Brothers Big Sisters staff at the 2007 Annual Meeting.

Over the last eight years, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay has maintained a budget of over \$2M.

Our children come from families experiencing risk factors including: physical, emotional, sexual abuse, drug/alcohol abuse, school-related difficulties, strained familial relationships or having one or both parents incarcerated.

We often hear our Bigs tell us that they feel like they get more out of the relationship than their Littles.



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[www.bbbsfl.org](http://www.bbbsfl.org)**

*Thank you for taking the time to learn about  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay. For more information on  
how you can get involved please contact De Anna Sheffield at  
813-769-3604 or [Deanna.sheffield@bbbs.org](mailto:Deanna.sheffield@bbbs.org)*