Our mission is to help children reach their potential through professionally supported, one-to-one relationships.

Our vision is to provide successful mentoring relationships for all children who need and want them, contributing to brighter futures, better schools, and stronger communities for all.

Our goal is for Big Brothers Big Sisters to be the organization of choice for youth mentoring, corporate and community partnering, fundraising, staff and board membership.

Safety is the most important service we provide for our Bigs and Littles. Our professional staff provides extensive screening, ongoing mentoring and match support.

In the 70’s we were known as Big Brothers of Vineland, serving boys referred by family court and mentored by lawyers, police officers, doctors, and prominent business professionals.

In 1982 we became Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cumberland County, serving boys and girls, ages 7 through 18, throughout Cumberland County that were primarily referred by a relative or teacher.

In 2005 our service area expanded to include Salem County.

In 2008, 434 children had a Big Brother or Big Sister while 194 children continued to wait for their Big. 100 waiting Littles participated in special events and client activities.

In 2008, 247 high school students were mentors to Elementary School children in the High School Mentoring Programs.

In 2008, over 40 families received holiday assistance in the form of food baskets, gifts, toys, clothing, and gift certificates made possible by generous donations from the community.

“Littles” in our program come from diverse racial, cultural and economic demographics and more than 60% of our Littles are males.

Our Bigs are as diverse as our Littles and range from high school students to senior citizens.

Community Based is our traditional one-to-one mentoring program that follows the model established in 1904. The primary reason for enrollment in this program is to establish a friendship for a child with a volunteer who can provide consistent support.

In December 2004, Mentoring Children of Prisoners Program was launched. This unique one to one mentoring program pairs adult volunteers with children who are growing up with a parent in prison.

Since 1995, High School and School-Based Programs have grown from one school to 21 schools throughout Cumberland and Salem Counties. This program allows adults and high school students to visit the elementary and middle school students on a weekly basis.

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Numerous research studies show that BBBS mentoring has a significant and measurable positive impact on the lives of youth. **Children matched with a Big Brother or Big Sister are less likely to take illegal drugs, start drinking alcohol, skip school, or exhibit violent behavior.**

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cumberland & Salem Counties** was nationally recognized for significant growth in the number of children served and increased revenue. The agency is in the running for National President/CEO and Board of Trustees of the Year awards for the 2008 Big Brothers Big Sisters of America National Conference to be held in St. Louis in June of 2008.

**Paul Gramm**, Big Brother of the Year for the State of New Jersey in 2008, has been a Big Brother in the Community Based Program since 2002.

**Pamela McCourt**, Big Sister of the Year for the State of New Jersey in 2006, has been a Big Sister in the School Based Program since 1995.

With the combination of the human spirit to give as a volunteer and the Big Brothers Big Sisters trademark approach to extensively screened and supervised mentoring, each one-to-one relationship has the potential to last as a Big Brothers Big Sisters supervised and supported relationship until the Little graduates from high school.

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**You May Have What We Need to Make Magic!**

**OUR WISHLIST**

- Sponsors and in-kind donations for client activities
- Small photo albums, scrap booking materials and disposable cameras for matches to capture their “magic”
- Tickets to sporting events and movies for our matches to enjoy
- Someone to print and design our annual newsletter
- Invite others to Little Moments Information Sessions!
- Locations to place our candy/gum ball machines

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

- Cheerleaders! Friends telling Friends about Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Join a committee
- Help promote BBBS at community events
- Translator (as needed)
- Host an event for children on our waiting list
- Help with holiday donations
- Sell Car Raffle Tickets
- Collect auction items for Annual Big Night Auction and Wine Tasting
- Sell tickets and collect ads for Annual Big Night Auction and Wine Tasting