

# IT TAKES LITTLE TO BE BIG!

#### Our Mission

Thank you for your interest in becoming a mentor for a youth through Big Brothers Big Sisters Greater Fredericksburg (BBBS) Our mission is to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth.

### **Programs and Requirements**

To qualify as a mentor you should be a responsible, caring adult who is interested in spending time and having fun with a kid. You must be at least 18 years old, have a valid driver's license and insurance as well as reliable transportation, live in the BBBS service area (Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Caroline and King George), and commit to seeing your mentee 2-4 times per month for 1 year. Once matched with a Little, you would spend time together in the community and plan outings like going to the park, playing games, taking a walk, or getting something to eat.

# Child Safety

<u>Safety is our #1 priority.</u> In order to ensure the safety and well-being of the Littles in our programs, we complete thorough screenings of volunteer applicants and provide support and resources to the Little's families. We empower the Little by providing safety information. We offer multiple training opportunities for parents and volunteers, some of which are required before matching. Behind the scenes, our staff will run several local and national background checks on potential mentors, including Child Protective Service screenings, criminal history record checks, DMV record checks, and reference checks. If you have any information about an incident that may appear on a background check, please let us know ahead of time.

In the first year of the match, we check in with participants every month by phone to assure the match is healthy and safe for everyone. We also provide support, coaching, encouragement, and resources when needed.

## Financial Commitment

There is no cost to become a mentor with Big Brothers Big Sisters. You are not required to spend money on your match outings. We encourage free and lost-cost activities. Your time and attention are your most valuable assets as a mentor. Our organization also sponsors several activities throughout the year that are free to Bigs & Littles.

#### <u>Next Steps</u>

**Interested in getting started?** Step 1 is to fill out the application. Once completed, our Enrollment Team will provide information on scheduling an orientation and interview.