

Macquarie internship opportunity



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Toronto partnered this summer with the Macquarie Group Foundation to offer six grade eleven students a phenomenal opportunity as part of the Macquarie LEADS High School Mentoring and Work Experience Program. The LEADS Program provided a unique paid work experience with each student being placed in a different department at Macquarie Financial and matched with both a senior staff and a team of mentors. The six interns worked diligently over the summer creating databases, preparing for marketing campaigns, and vastly improving their knowledge of the wonders of Microsoft Excel. The interns also benefitted from daily presentations from Macquarie staff on varying career paths, savvy use of social networking websites, and some fantastic field trips! This program is the second stage of BBBST's partnership with Macquarie Group Foundation, and was a resounding success.

In the words of one of the interns, "This was a wonderful opportunity to experience various businesses and really get a chance to see whether this is something you would want to do in the future!"

A Call to Action for Men



Teach your Little

Did you know....

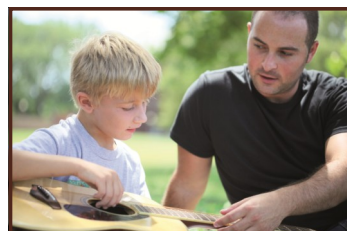
Over 70% of our Littles waiting to be matched are boys
Only 25% of our volunteer applicants are male

We need Big Brothers!

It takes as little as one hour a week over a lunch break to help make a BIG difference in a young person's life.

Guys – it's not just about giving. Mentors report gaining a lot out of their experiences because they learn from the development of the young person they are matched with.

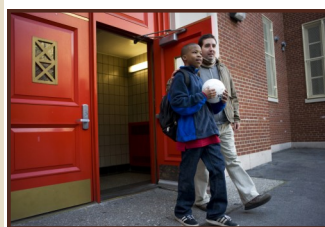
Please email Ashton at ashton.dsilva@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca to apply to become a BIG today!



Learn from your Little



Play games



Go places



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Toronto offers mentoring programs for children and youth between six and 18 years of age and currently serves over 1400 children annually.

Phone: 416-925-8981
Fax: 416-925-4671
Website: www.bbbst.com



501- 2345 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario M4P 2E5



Between Friends

FALL 2011

40th Anniversary



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Toronto

2012 marks the **40th year** of Bowl for Kids Sake in Toronto!

Get Involved to make it a BIG success!

Be a leader: Lead the way by putting together a team of 4 – 6 people and raising a minimum of \$500 as a team.

Spread the word: Challenge your friends and colleagues to put together their own teams and come out for some friendly competition.

Sponsor a lane: Encourage your employer to sponsor teams, lanes or provide matching gifts to those employees who participate and raise funds.

Volunteer: Want to help but don't fancy yourself a bowler? Volunteer at one of the events!

Donate: Help us reach our \$500,000 anniversary goal!

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2012 Bowl for Kids Sake Dates

Corporate & Media Day, Saturday, February 11th at Thorncliffe Bowlerama; a fun afternoon for the media and corporate sectors to get together and bowl for a great cause.

Cosmic Bowling Night, Tuesday, February 22nd at Newtonbrook Bowlerama; followed by Pub Night at The Duke of Kent at Yonge and Eglinton.

RE/MAX Night, Wednesday, February 29th at The Ballroom. If you're part of the RE/MAX team, gather some friends & coworkers and come out to bowl with us!

Desjardins Community Day, Saturday, March 3rd at Newtonbrook and Bowlerama West— a wonderful opportunity for friends and families to spend a fun afternoon bowling while raising money for a great cause.

Bank Day, Saturday, March 31st at Thorncliffe Bowlerama; if you are part of the banking world, get a team together and come out to Bank Day. Compete for the Top Bank Trophy!

Cisco Day, Thursday, April 19th at Bowlerama West. Every April, Cisco Systems hosts their own BFKS workday event. Over 30 teams come out to bowl for BBBST!





President's Message

Dear Friends,

As we approach our Centennial Year in 2013 – the first Big Brother agency was formed in Toronto in 1913 – Big Brothers Big Sisters is making a significant shift in how it presents itself to Canadians. We are building a new platform...one that can deliver messages about the importance of mentoring programs and the transformative impact they have on communities. This is a platform from which we can invite contributions of not only time, but of financial gifts. And above all, one that showcases an organization that has its eyes squarely focused on the future and in providing mentoring services to even more kids.

Our new messaging and branding will empower others to help improve the lives of children and youth, ultimately having a major impact on our communities. Part of Toronto's Centenary Celebrations will include "A Journey of 100 Years". For this project we are now searching for our oldest living Bigs and Littles and hope to share their stories over the course of the next several months.

Big Brother Carel Van der Hyden and Little Brother Clayton were matched 25 years ago – Clayton was 9 years old; Carel 64 years young. Clayton wrote "My dad left me when I was two years, I really don't remember him anyways, my mom raised me all my life as best as she can. We lived in bad neighbourhoods and we didn't have much, I was sick quite often due to asthma, in and out of hospitals as a child, it wasn't fun!" Clayton's mother contacted Big Brothers with the hope of finding a male role model for her son and the impact was significant as can be seen in what Clayton wrote about Carel, "It was an awesome relationship, so awesome, after a year I think, I considered him my dad."

I was fortunate this past summer to have met Carel at his home in Owen Sound, where I had the privilege of spending a day with him and his wife Pat. Over the course of several hours I heard story after story of all the things that Carel and Clayton did together – from trips to the CN Tower; hockey games and African Lion Safari to walks on the beach; dinners at his family home; attending church together; building and creating various projects and Carel teaching Clayton how to drive. Referred to Big Brothers after a challenging time in his life, Carel transferred his energy towards a shy little boy and as their friendship deepened over the years, Clayton grew into an outgoing young man. Carel wrote in his autobiography that "he (Clayton) developed a great interest in people and became a very active and lovely boy to have around."

Carel instilled in Clayton values that he believes helped shape the man that he is today, including the importance of education and family. Carel and Pat have embraced Clayton's five children, making them a part of all of their family celebrations. Clayton pays Carel the highest compliment when he wrote "he saved my life and guided me through life on the right path. One day, when my kids are grown up, I would like to become a Big Brother myself and give another child the opportunity for a better life!"

If you know anyone who was involved as a Big or a Little in years past who you think might have an interesting story for our Centennial Celebrations, please let me know as we would love to showcase them. I can be reached at cathy.denyer@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca

Until Next Time,
Cathy Denyer

Let's Go Blue Jays!



Cisco Systems invited BBBST to two Toronto Blue Jays games in August and Dion, one of our Youth Leaders, got to throw out the first pitch!!

Big and Littles enjoyed the game and snacks from box seats and met Ace—the Blue Jay mascot!

A BIG thank you to Cisco Systems for the opportunity!



Winter Party Time!

Hosted by JAM Direct



Please join us for a fun day of skating, hockey, face painting, arts and crafts, magic shows and gifts for every Little!

Where: Ricoh Coliseum

When: December 17, 2011 10am - 1 pm

Please RSVP by December 2nd to:

blevents.toronto@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca

Be sure to tell us:

- Big's full name & Little's first name
- If you need a helmet and/or skates (please indicate size)
- Any dietary restrictions



Host your own 3rd Party Event!

Hosting a Holiday Party this year? Bake Sale or Dance-a-Thon? Support BBBST with your own Third Party Event!

A few event ideas to raise money in support of children and youth in Toronto include:

- Bake sale
- Garage/yard sale
- BBQ
- Raffles/Auctions
- Sporting Events

For more information, please contact Heather Ryan
416-925-8981 ext. 4132
event.coordinator@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca

Third Party Events are organized by community groups to help raise funds for BBBST to operate our programs and ensure that every child who needs a mentor has a mentor.

Every little bit helps and we appreciate the effort of those who host 3rd party events in support of BBBST.

Get creative!



Takacs Scholarship Recipients

The Andra Takacs Scholarship offered through BBBST encourages students to continue on to University or College with academic and financial support. In order to apply for this opportunity, Grade 8 students have to be enrolled in a mentoring program with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Toronto.



This year's recipients are Little Sister Savannah and Little Brother Matthew, featured in the photographs with Ms. Takacs, a longtime Board Member with BBBST. Savannah and Matthew will each receive a \$200 prize and post-secondary tuition assistance of \$20,000 (\$5,000 per year for up to four years), conditional upon satisfactory academic progress.



New College Program

Something great started at the University of Toronto this October. Once again, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Toronto has partnered with New College and the Andra Takacs Foundation to offer the New College Program. High school students who have won or applied for the Andra Takacs Scholarship or are interested in a university mentorship experience will be matched with current university students from New College.

As a group, they will meet twice a month to take part in activities organized by the University of Toronto. Each session will highlight a different aspect of university life. For example, youth will take a campus tour, dine in residence, attend a mock lecture, visit the Athletic Centre, and explore with the Career Centre. Of course, the best part is that both mentees and mentors will get to develop great friendships built on the principles of guidance and fun.