

he past year was a challenging one for our agency. We are one of the many companies and organizations that were affected by the economic downturn. While we were forced to make some difficult decisions, we also had many successes over the year and a renewed focus on child safety and outcomes.

Fiscal year 2009 grant awards were significantly less than the prior year, resulting in a 20% decrease in our annual budget. Unfortunately, we had to downsize our service area and staff in response. We continued to serve Black Hawk, Bremer, and Delaware Counties.

But with challenges come opportunities. In 2009, we strengthened our program for the children we serve. As ever, our first and foremost concern is that 'our' children are safe. Secondly, we strive to help the youth obtain the outcomes that Big Brothers Big Sisters is known for. We recognize that strong relationships and optimal outcomes are based on quality, not quantity. Our focus is on what is best for the youth we serve and can be seen in consistent match support, volunteer training, and emphasis on match retention.

Last year, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Iowa served Bremer, and Delaware Counties. Some of the matches have been some for just a few months. Every month, however, they are forming friendships and turning little moments into big magic.

We'd like to take this time to thank you. Without the support of our donors and volunteers, Big Brothers Big Sisters would not have the opportunity to make matches that transform the lives of children. Together, we are changing how children in our community grow. Thank you.

Most sincerely,

Christy Justice President, Board of Directors 2009

Christy Justice Jay Koweil Michele McCann Maria Benham **Executive Director**

over 600 children in Black Hawk, together for many years, getting together, Jordan Alborn

Aaron Card

Molly Duggan

Brooke Farrell

2009 Board of Directors Carrie Rankin Jay Schares Michelle Glockner Henry Shepherd Jeremy Stoltz Phil Turnis Molly Wilson Teresa Wilmot

Did you know Littles are...

IMPACTING NORTHEAST IOWA ONE

School Based- One-to-one mentoring of children grades K - 12 that takes place for one hour each week in the schools. Some Littles talk with Bigs about class or do homework together, but it's really all about friendship and guidance. Matches may play basketball, jump rope or read - whatever the match enjoys.

Community Based- The traditional Big Brothers Big Sisters relationship. It's all about one-to-one time spent with the volunteer and the young person doing things they enjoy like riding horses, cooking, or shooting hoops. Youth ages 6 - 13 are matched with role models who meet at least twice a month for a total of 6 - 10 hours per month. Wheter meeting during the weekend or after school, fun is always on the agenda!

Amachi- This program is unique, it provides a caring role model to a child with an incarcerated parent. Youth ages 4 - 18 meet with their Bigs at least four hours a month in the community and can meet at school as well, if they choose. These children are more vulnerable to following a life of crime and becoming incarcerated themselves. Mentoring can help break that cycle.

Anyone can refer a child to get a Big Brother or Big Sister, but parent/custodial adult permission is always required. To make a referral, call our office or visit www.iowabigs.org







46% less likely to begin using illegal drugs?



Did you know 58% of Littles...



have shown improvement in school?



Each friendship creates its own story. One that especially stands out is the companionship between Little Sister Alissa and her Big Sister, Jessica Murrow. Jessica was one of our 2009 "Bigs of the Year."

Jessica, an education student at the University of Northern lowa, wanted to make a difference in a child's life. When she heard about our programs, she knew she wanted to get involved. She meets with her Little Sister, Alissa, weekly at her school in Cedar Falls. Alissa loves that her Big



Sister shares the common interest of art. The two love doing crafts and making collages together. BBBS feel it's



important to bring together matches that share common interests such as these two. Jessica describes Alissa as having, "the most accepting and loving personality of anyone I've ever met." The two truly enjoy spending time together which is what our program is all about. Aside from all else, Alissa can be herself during her time with Jessica, and she has someone who can be a guide, a mentor but most importantly, a friend. Jessica knows she is filling a need in Alissa's life and can make her feel special.

This match is a true example of how four hours a month can change a young person's life. The whole idea of a Big Brother or Sister is to simply be a friend. It doesn't require a special occasion or expensive activity. Big Sister Jessica sees her time with Alissa as, "an unbiased atmosphere for her, one hour a week, to be herself." Just getting together and sharing experiences they both enjoy is enough to make an enduring impact. Nothing

Did you know Littles are...





is more rewarding to Jessica than returning from summer break to see Alissa's eyes light up. It's clear that their relationship has been equally lifechanging for Alissa and her Big Sister Jessica.

National research supports that BBBS programs have a direct and measurable impact on children's lives. It is proven that Littles are more likely to be more confident students, have better family relationships, and are less likely to abuse drugs and alcohol. Involvement in our programs help improve self-confidence and perspectives on life.

These factors lead to why Littles are better educated, wealthier and have stronger



relationship with their spouses, children and friends. Here in Northeast Iowa, during the month of January, we reflected upon the impact we made in 2009 and look forward to more changed lives in 2010.

Thanks to our Magic Makers who contributed \$1,000 or more toward one-to-one mentoring in our community! Cedar Valley's Promise Cedar Valley United Way Community Foundation of Northeast lowa Lincoln Savings Bank CUNA Mutual Group Max & Helen Guernsey Exchange Club of Waverly Foundation Grainger McElroy Trust Hy-Vee The Radio Group John Deere Waterloo Together 4 Families Operations Wal Mart Waverly-Shell Rock United Way

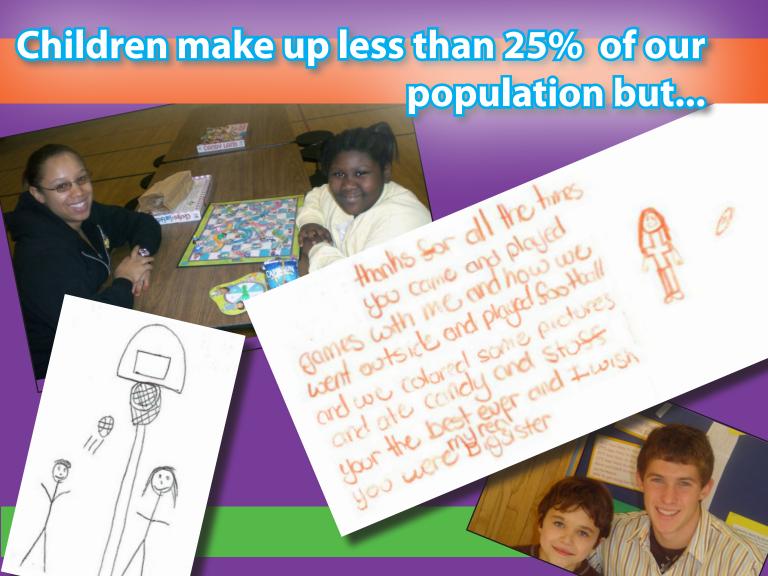
42% more likely to receive a four-year degree?



Did you know 39% of Littles are...



more likely to have an income of \$75,000 or higher?





THANK YOU

Scott Abing
Samantha Adams

Sue Adriano Jordan Alborn

Brian Andersen

Andrew Anderson

Collin Anderson Shari Anderson

Judy Anderson

Robert & Annette Andres

Kelly Antons Anytime Fitness

Applebees-Cedar Falls Applebees-Waterloo

Brian Aronson Tiffany Aronson Cheryl Asche Lisa Avens

Denielle Badker Craig & Micky Bahlmann

Sam Banser Barmuda Barnes & Noble

Michael Barett Jessica Bates Meghan Bell Paul & Maria Benham

Joseph Benter Dawn Bergmann Cory Berkenes Danny Berryman

Bertch Cabinets Manufacturing

Melissa Bicket Bike Tech Sara Blackstock Shellie Bolt

Benjamin B<mark>orgman</mark>

Jamie Brayton
James Brown
Kim Bruess
Ben Brustkern
Kathy Burk
Aaron Card
Carlos O'Kelly's

Carney, Alexander, Marold & Co.,

L.L.P. Steve Carr

Cedar Heights Community Presbyterian Church

Cedar Valley United Way
Cedar Valley's Promise

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Adam Christofferson

Chuck Wagon Jay Colsch Cool 105.7

Miriam Cordero
Delaney Cornforth

Kayla Crane
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Scott Crowley

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Brittany Deshon
Doughy Joey's
Bruce Dralle
Molly Duggan
Scott Dunbar

Alfred & Joanne Eastin

Craig Eastin Curtis Edler Deb Elin

Bryan Earnest

Did you know 81% of Littles

Leigh Elliott
Jerry & Audrey Elsamiller
Ewie Co. Inc.
Exchange Club of Waterloo
Exchange Club of Waverly

Beth Fanter Brooke Farrell

Fazoli's

Louis & Susan Fettkether

Brian Fiacco Ron Fiacco Travis Fiacco Vicki Fiacco Alvaro Forero Carole Fox Andrew Frost Amber Gast Jenny Gast Luke Gast

David & Tara Gettman

Jody Gibson

Steve & Lynn Gleason Hannah Glockner Michelle Glockner Richard Glockner

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Jen Helfrich Jennifer Heller Juliann Henderlong Lauren Hernandez Megan Hillman

Josef & Brandi Hoffmann Brent & Kathy Holbert

Elise Howe

Hy-Vee Food Stores

The Isle Casino & Hotel-Waterloo

Duke Issacson
Ron Jacks
Justin Jackson
Baylee Jacobs
Dennis Jeffries
William Jochumsen
Jimmy John's-Cedar Falls

Amy Joens

John Deere Waterloo Operations

Sally Johnson Clare Jones Jeff Jones Sarah Juhl

James & Christy Justice John & Tracy Justice

Ryan Justice Karen Kane

Karmac Trucking, LLC Dave & Alex Kelling

Dan Kielman

William & Krista Kirkpatrick

Katie Klein
Angie Knoll
Beverly Kopper
Jay & Joanne Koweil
Anton Kozlovsky
Dawn Kruth
Tiffany Kudron
Todd Kuntz

Thomas & Clarissa Kunz

Will & Liz Kurtt
Melissa Lammers
Jason Leonard
Jon & Lisa Liebau
Lincoln Savings Bank
Wanda Linderwell
Lewis & Niki Litzel

Jill Lodge

Cassandra Loecke

Kelli Loers
Cass Loesche

set higher goals in life because of their Big?

Louis Montgomery Ross Lona Lisa Peterson Ashley Ann Loper Gail Moon Marquerite Pircer Louis Montgomery, DDS Jeremiah & Cassonda Moothart Pita Pit Tasha Lucas Aaron Morris Ken & Barb Pitt Andrew Lusson Alan Morris Rey Pitt Mamma Nick's **Brianne Power** Lanie Morris **Budhadeb Mahakul** Pat Mullen Amanda Povner **Troy Mangrich** Sherri Munson Rabo AgriFinance Karen Maricle Desiree Myers **Dorothy Rainey Aaron Martin** Carrie Neessen Mike Ramker Master Cuts Shannon Nehl **Dennis & Nancy Rand** Frin Neuendorf Max & Helen Guernsey Carrie Rankin News Talk 1540 Stephanie Regenold Foundation Thomas Maximovich Bao Tran Nguyen Kassi Reynolds Michele McCann John Nickel Rick & Junnie's Coin, Inc. Darrell McCormick Norma Mae's **Rock 108** Beth McCrindle David Nuetzman Thomas Rohrssen McDonald's-Waterloo Oladapo Obitayo Jessica Sacco R.J. McElroy Trust Old Chicago Armin Samardzic McKinlev Aldijana Omanovic Joe Sands John Michel Ashlev Orvis Lacey Satterlee Ivana Miiatovic Amy Paige **Jay Schares** Laureen Miller Anthony Paige Scheels Linda Miller Loretta Palma **Ruth Schluter** Trov & Jane Miller Panchero's **Bryan & Pauline Schmidt** Van Miller Darin Schmidt Papa John's Whitney Mitvalsky Kaylisha Parker **Keith Schmidt Emily Patterson Greg Mix** Charlene Schmitt

Did you know Littles are...

Troy Schreoder Dick Schroder

Verla & Dale Pecha

Mari Petersen

Shawn Monroe

Montage

Screaming Eagle Renee Sedlacek Francis Sennel Bonnie Sessler Matt Seward Marcie Sharp Henry Shepherd Janet Shirk Shoe Carnival Mavis Te Slaa Andrea Slade Mark & Flaine Slade Tyler Smedley Sue & Donnie Soash Heidi Solheim Dan Soppe Sara Sprole Star 1330 Starbucks **Emily Steere** Shanda Steere

Abby Stolz

Fvan Stolz

Jeremy Stolz

Matt Swanson

Harold & Patsy Swailes

Ali Swick Tom Taiber Texas Roadhouse Tara Thomas Todd & Dorseyann Thompson Stephen & Liz Thorpe Angela Thurman Rachel Tiby Kathy Tiedt Tires Plus **Together 4 Families** Justin Tolan Rose Torgersen-Metcalf Samantha & Kim Traiger

Kelly Turner **Phil Turnis** Kristin Underwood **UNItix University Book & Supply** Gerald & Susan Vallem Tammy Vande Voort David & Dee Vandeventer Veridian Credit Union Julie Versluis Regina Verastegui

VGM Group Inc. Karen Vick Michelle Voat **Doug Vogt** Kristin Vowell Susan Ward Megan Wagner Dawn Wallbaum WalMart Waterfalls Waterloo Black Hawks Waverly-Shell Rock United Way Danielle Weiland Alycia West Jennifer Wetzeler Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare **Brian & Deanna Wheeler** Jennifer Williams Teresa Wilmot **Todd & Molly Wilson** Wingate Hotel **Dave Wylam** Yantis & Associates

Rick Young

Holly Youngblut

52% less likely to skip school?



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Bremer County 118 E. Bremer Ave., Suite B Waverly, IA 50677 319-352-2813

Delaware County 212 1/2 E. Main St. Manchester, IA 52057 563-927-5148

It costs \$1,000 to serve ONE match for ONE year.