



## FY 2024 OJJDP Mentoring Opportunities for Youth Initiative Grantee Profile

# Big Brothers Big Sisters of America

### Program Overview and Background

Founded in 1904, Big Brothers Big Sisters is the largest and most experienced youth mentoring organization in the United States. Our mission is to create and support mentoring relationships that help all young people reach their potential.

Partnering with parents, caregivers, schools, corporations, and others in the community, Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) carefully pairs children “Littles” with screened volunteer mentors “Bigs” and monitors and supports them in one-to-one mentoring relationships “matches”. The organization holds itself accountable for children in the program to achieve measurable outcomes, such as higher aspirations, greater confidence, better relationships, more education success, and avoidance of delinquency as well as other risky behaviors. Most children served by Big Brothers Big Sisters are in single-parent and low-income families or households where a parent is incarcerated. Headquartered in Tampa, Florida, with a network of over 230 agencies across the country, Big Brothers Big Sisters serves over 85,000 children each year. In the past decade, BBBSA has reached nearly 2 million children."

### Program Services

Big Brothers Big Sister of America is on a mission to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth. BBBSA’s mentoring programs have the goals of increasing pro-social skills and behaviors, such as school engagement and academic efficacy, and reducing negative outcomes, including involvement in juvenile delinquency, victimization, and substance use. To accomplish these goals, BBBSA enhances mentoring services to reach at-risk, victimized, or underserved populations of youth across the country in partnerships with local Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies; increasing the number of mentors recruited from local community organizations; and offering training and resources to local agencies to strengthen their ability to serve Bigs, Littles, and families with evidence-based mentoring practices.



Headquarters in Tampa, FL

Founded in 1904

5,200 Youth Served

1 Program Locations

85 Sub Grantees

**Grant:** JJ FY24 Mentoring: National

**Award Number:** 15PJDP-24-GG-01659-MENT

**Award Amount:** \$11,000,000

#### Mentoring Model & Structure

- Community-based, Site-based, School-based
- One-to-one, School-based, Community-based
- Partnering with Juvenile Justice Agencies, Schools
- Programs focus on Academics, Gang Prevention, General, Substance Misuse/Impact, Youth Victims (Child Abuse or Exploitation), Youth with Disabilities



## Target Population

We aim to provide mentoring under this grant to young people with any one or more of the following:

- Juvenile Justice Involvement
- Rural
- Single Parent Household
- Substance Misuse/Impact
- Victimization
- Youth with Disabilities

## Mentor Recruitment & Training

- 5,200 mentors recruited under this grant
- For mentor recruitment, we target Adult Volunteers
- Duration of program services: Varies
- Expected intensity of match contact: Matched parties (Bigs & Littles) spend consistent, significant time together, which is monitored by professional program agency staff. The specific frequency and intensity are not tracked.
- Expected length of a match: Minimum of 12 months
- Expected frequency of match contact: Matched parties (Bigs & Littles) spend consistent, significant time together, which is monitored by professional program agency staff. The specific frequency and intensity are not tracked.
- Number of training hours required before a mentor is matched with a youth: 1.5 hours

## Additional Resources

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of America Website: [www.bbbs.org](http://www.bbbs.org)

this data is accurate as of January 2025.

### For more information on our OJJDP grant:

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