Through the Years

1970
- In 1971 Big Brothers of Austin, Inc. is officially recognized by the State of Texas and begins to operate.
- Big Brothers of Austin, Inc. grows from serving 5 boys to serving more than 250 boys by 1974.
- In 1975 Big Brothers begins to serve females and becomes Big Brothers Big Sisters of Austin.
- By the end of the decade, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Austin works with more than 400 matches.

1980
- In 1981 Hobie Day is launched - an annual match event devoted to sailing.
- In 1983 Bowl for Kids Sake, one of the agency’s annual fundraisers, begins.
- In 1985 the agency moves to 1400 Tillery in East Austin.
- 1986 marks the beginning of BBBS’ Scholarship program, providing Littles in Central Texas a higher education incentive.

2000
- 2005 is the year Helping Austin launches the Ice Ball Gala benefitting BBBS.
- In 2009 Ben and Anthony are named National Big/Little Brothers of the Year.

2010
- In 2014 BBBS provides mentors to 1,165 children.
- 2015 sees 700 guests attend the 10th Annual Ice Ball Gala.
- In 2016 the Big Futures pilot program is launched.
- In 2017 BBBS celebrates the grand opening of the new Bennett-Rathgeber Mentoring Center.

2020
- In 2020 Ashley and Brianna are named National Big/Little Sisters of the Year.
- In 2021 BBBS celebrates its 50th Anniversary of serving kids in Central Texas.

About BBBS

OUR KIDS
BBBS has served children in Central Texas for 50 years. Many have the odds stacked against them, but with the help of their mentor, they are taking steps to a brighter future.

OUR MISSION
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Texas exists to help children reach their full potential. We do this by creating caring, one-to-one relationships between children and adult volunteers who serve as mentors, role models and guides.

OUR IMPACT
Our unique model of one-to-one mentoring has a direct and lasting effect on the lives of young people.
In past 50 years we have had a significant impact in Central Texas.

42,165 children matched with a mentor

2,529,900 volunteer hours given by “Bigs”

Programs offered by BBBS

- Military Mentoring
- Big Couples/Partner Matches
- Workplace mentoring
- Bigs in Blue
- Online/virtual matches
- Scholarship Program
- Big Futures Program
- Sister to Sister
- Brother to Brother
- Youth Activity Center Nights
- Hobie Day
- Match Holiday Party
- Big Impact Group

More than $7 million in college scholarships promised to “Littles”

More than $5.5 million raised through the Ice Ball Gala

More than $1.5 million given by 171 Giving Society members

Special Fundraisers:

- Ice Ball Gala - 16 years
- Bowl for Kids - 38 years
- SantaCon - 4 years

From Our Bigs

I’m proud to support BBBS because it has given me the opportunity to make a positive impact on a child’s life at a time when it’s needed most. Providing encouragement, guidance and mentorship to my “Little” has been equally as rewarding for me, as I’ve been able to watch her grow into a more confident, and successful young adult. Simply spending time together has been fulfilling for both of us!

– Katie Joyce, Big Sister

“Seeing a kid recognize the potential hidden within themselves is one of the most powerful things I’ve ever witnessed. It’s like a light bulb that can only be illuminated by someone who genuinely cares about them and is willing to spend the time and effort to help them turn it on. I can’t say enough about the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. It truly changes the world, one relationship at a time.”

– Jeremy Giroir, Big Brother

There are so many children who have a potential for greatness and don’t know it. Sometimes, it just takes one person believing in them to make them believe in themselves. Having a Big Brother or Big Sister to be that person can have a tremendous impact and truly does make a difference.”

– Maggie Johnson, Big Sister