

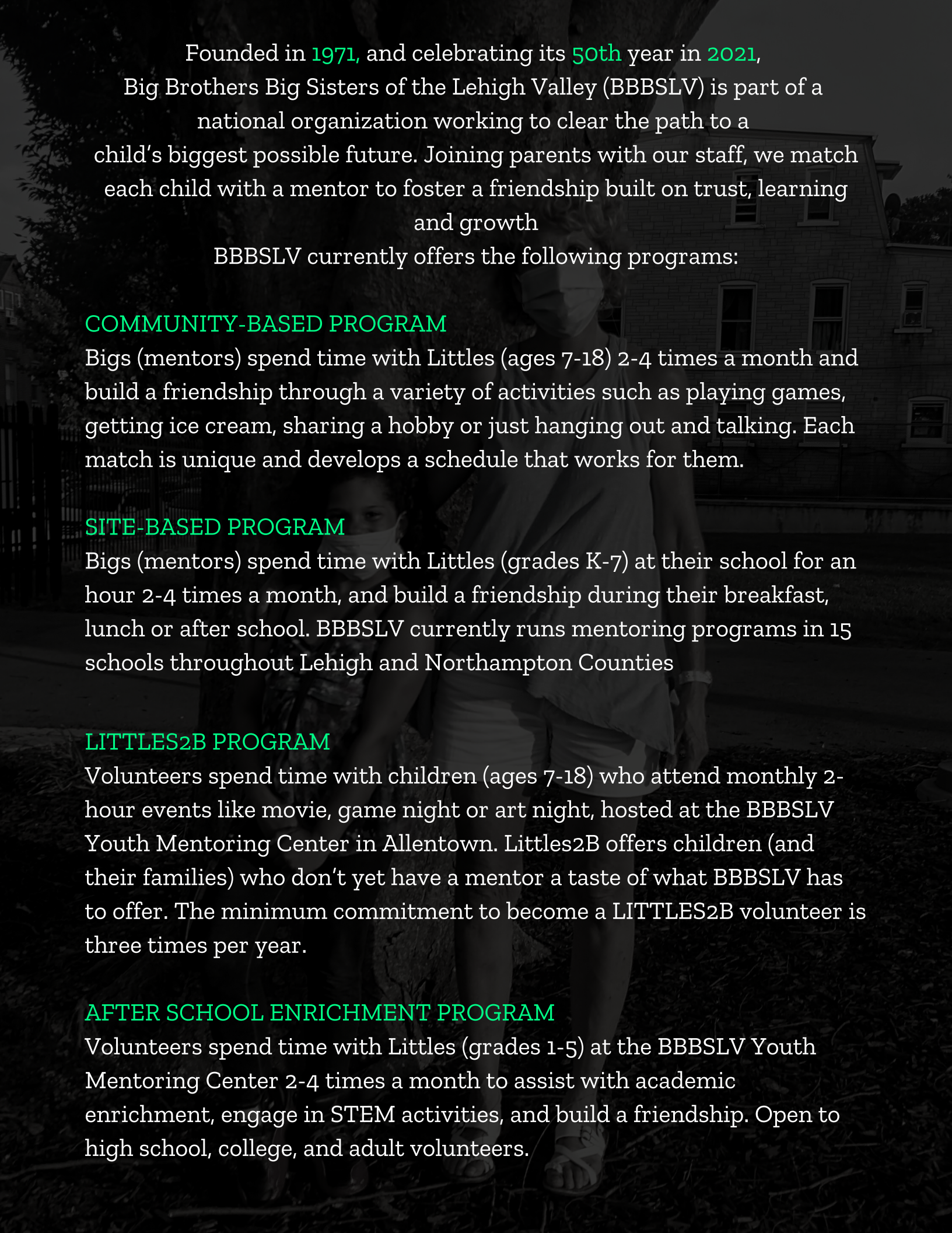
**FY  
2019-2020**

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**



**Big Brothers Big Sisters.**  
OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY





Founded in 1971, and celebrating its 50th year in 2021, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Lehigh Valley (BBBSLV) is part of a national organization working to clear the path to a child's biggest possible future. Joining parents with our staff, we match each child with a mentor to foster a friendship built on trust, learning and growth

BBBSLV currently offers the following programs:

### COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAM

Bigs (mentors) spend time with Littles (ages 7-18) 2-4 times a month and build a friendship through a variety of activities such as playing games, getting ice cream, sharing a hobby or just hanging out and talking. Each match is unique and develops a schedule that works for them.

### SITE-BASED PROGRAM

Bigs (mentors) spend time with Littles (grades K-7) at their school for an hour 2-4 times a month, and build a friendship during their breakfast, lunch or after school. BBBSLV currently runs mentoring programs in 15 schools throughout Lehigh and Northampton Counties

### LITTLES2B PROGRAM

Volunteers spend time with children (ages 7-18) who attend monthly 2-hour events like movie, game night or art night, hosted at the BBBSLV Youth Mentoring Center in Allentown. Littles2B offers children (and their families) who don't yet have a mentor a taste of what BBBSLV has to offer. The minimum commitment to become a LITTLES2B volunteer is three times per year.

### AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Volunteers spend time with Littles (grades 1-5) at the BBBSLV Youth Mentoring Center 2-4 times a month to assist with academic enrichment, engage in STEM activities, and build a friendship. Open to high school, college, and adult volunteers.



## BY THE NUMBERS

# 373

## YOUTH SERVED



### 100%

of matched Littles  
maintained  
or showed improvement  
in academic performance



### 100%

of matched Littles  
remained uninvolved  
in the  
justice system



### 96%

of matched Littles hold  
higher aspirations for  
future educational  
endeavors

\*Data obtained through the 2019-2020 BBBS Youth and Child Outcomes Survey

## 277

Youth matched in  
1-to-1 mentoring  
relationships

## 76

HS Bigs  
volunteers

## 181

Community-Based  
matches served

## 29

Children participating  
in Littles2B program

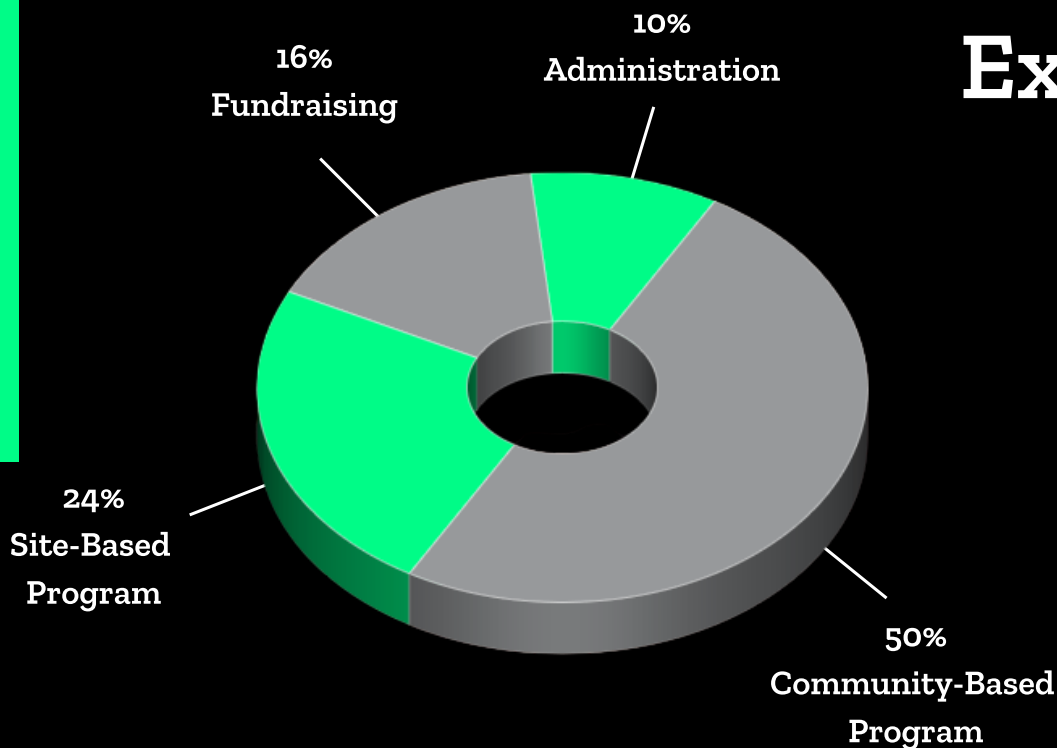
## 96

Site-Based  
matches served

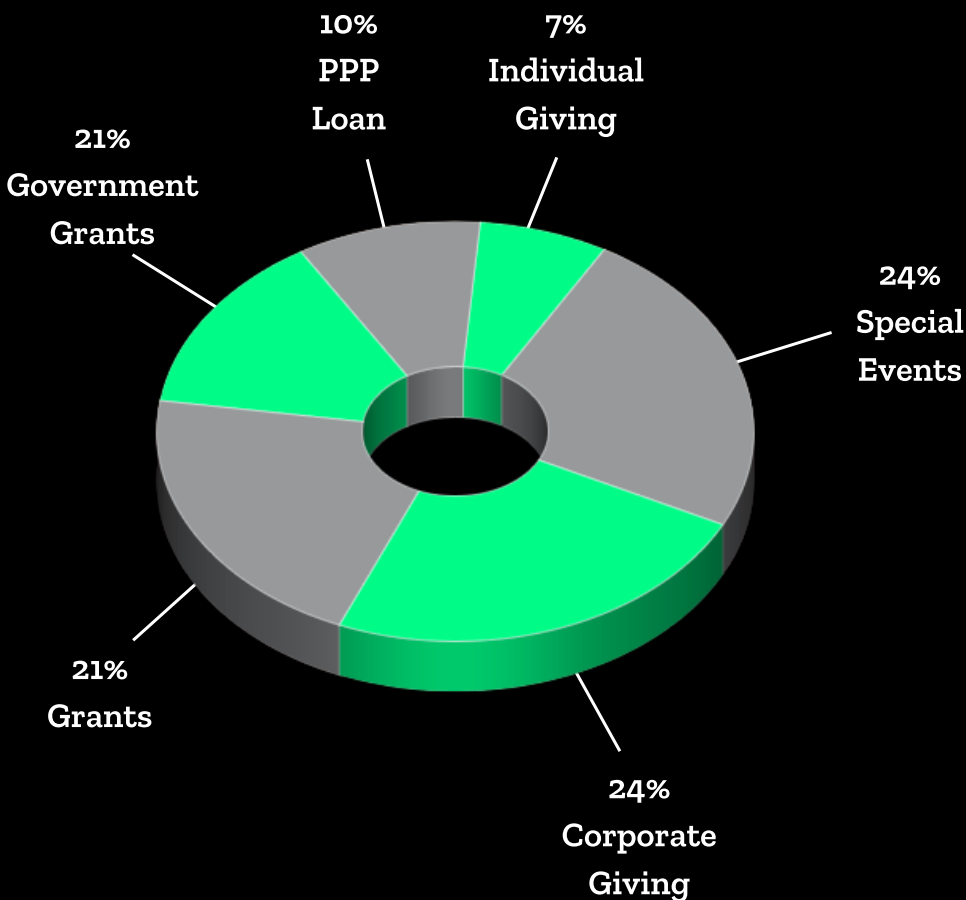
## 10

Elementary Schools  
served by HS Bigs  
program

# FY 19-20 Expenses



# FY 19-20 Revenue





## Partnership to Combat Health Challenges

Pinebrook Family Answers and BBBSLV are continuing their collaboration to provide community-based mentoring services for children dealing with mental health challenges in the Lehigh Valley. Their goal is to serve 90 additional children by the end of September 2021. Through Compeer's model, a community volunteer is matched with an adult with mental illness in the same community. BBBSLV is extending services to younger people in Lehigh County through this program, utilizing the already successful community-based mentoring model BBBSLV has employed for many years.

## STEAM Lab Established

Seeing a significant disparity in access to technology, BBBSLV has helped to alleviate this by creating a STEAM Lab in our Youth Mentoring Center in order provide our Littles with full access to technological resources, robust programming, and mentorship. Guided by the 4 C's of 21st Century Skills: Collaboration, Creative Thinking, Critical Thinking, Communication, we hope to grow our Littles in to competitive talent in an emerging workforce. Ipads and Chromebooks are available for use and coding apps and robots will be integrated with them for programs and matches to utilize. A Smartboard enables our Program Instructor to have interactive lessons prior to matches setting off on their own inquiry and exploration. We envision our STEAM Lab to be continually evolving, adding new resources as our programs grow.





## BBBSLV Adopts TheApp

With the pivot to work from home, remote learning, and suspension of in-person match activities, we adopted and began using TheApp. TheApp allows Bigs and Littles to communicate directly with each other and BBBS staff via threaded messaging similar to that used on common internet blogs or Facebook. BBBSLV staff are able to easily access and review all communications made in the system. TheApp is not intended to be merely a solution for match communications during the current COVID situation. Instead, it will serve as the foundation for expanded digital match programs into the future. TheApp is currently being used in the High School Bigs and Beyond School Walls programs.

## Inaugural LEAD BIG program

Lead BIG is a new corporate membership program that was developed last summer as way for us to engage the local business sector and collectively tackle the list of children waiting to be paired with a mentor. Companies are invited to sponsor individual mentoring relationships in exchange for an array of benefits. In our inaugural year, 15 companies joined us to help reduce the current list. Our goal for year-one was 50 matches sponsored by June 30th and in the end, we reached 44. Although the pandemic forced us to postpone in-person Lead BIG events, we were able to hold a two-part virtual Leadership Workshop. Year-two is currently underway with the hope of sustaining the matches created through the program last year and creating an additional 25-50 new matches from the waiting list.





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WE ARE  
A FORCE  
FOR  
CHANGE

