



Media Release

April 1st, 2023

Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Durham announces an E-Learning Program and Community Partnerships Project

Port Perry, ON: In the summer of 2022, Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Durham (BBBSND) received the news that it was receiving a \$141,900.00 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) to help launch two new initiatives. The OTF grant enabled the agency to be create an E-Learning Program to support the intake process for volunteers and a Community Partnership Project to help the agency connect with the communities of Uxbridge and Brock Township.

The E-Learning Program has allowed staff to create video courses for volunteers to view during the intake process and help with their training to become Mentors. Having the opportunity for volunteers to complete their training faster allows the agency to have more Mentors ready for the Littles who are on our waiting list.

The development of our Community Partnership Project is helping BBBSND reach all of the communities we serve in North Durham. The outreach to Uxbridge and Brock Townships has already helped the agency match Littles from these areas and bring new volunteer Mentors into the intake process to start their mentoring journey.

“Now, more than ever, our Littles need to feel emotionally connected to consistent, caring and trusted adults,” said Margaret Ayres, Executive Director for Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Durham. “The Ontario Trillium Foundation grant has allowed us to create new initiatives to reach out and connect with Littles looking for support and mentors ready to volunteer their time. We thank the Ontario Trillium Foundation and are grateful for this grant. We are also grateful for the Bigs, who continue to connect with our Littles during these difficult times.”

Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Durham is the leading child and youth mentorship organization in North Durham. Through volunteer mentors, they help ignite the power and potential of young people. 2021 marked the 45th anniversary of their commitment to providing life-changing mentoring in the community. Early intervention by the Big Brothers Big Sisters team can help prevent the physical and mental effects that adverse childhood experiences can cause. By donating your time as a mentor or financially, you’re giving a child a chance at a better future.

For more information on their programs, please visit www.northdurham.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada’s leading granting foundations celebrates 40 years of grantmaking in Ontario and making a lasting impact in communities. Last year, OTF invested nearly \$209M into 2,042 community projects and partnerships, which included funding for the Government of Ontario’s Community Building Fund. Visit otf.ca to learn more.

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