



A BIG Idea With BIG Results

GenerationBIG, a partnership between Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound and Senior Services, is a mentoring program that brings local school-aged children together with adults who are ages 55 or above. The mentors (called Bigs) and children (called Littles) meet one hour each week during the school year. Mentors also meet once per month with a group of fellow mentors to share experiences and advice with each other. Overall, *GenerationBIG* is a great way to have fun and to get involved in your community!

For More Information

Be **BIG!**



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound

For more information about *GenerationBIG*,
visit www.GenerationB.org
email us at info@generationb.org
or call us at **877-700-BIGS**.

GenerationBIG



You can do all of this by
joining *GenerationBIG!*



Be **BIG!**



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Puget Sound

For more information, please contact us at
877-700-BIGS www.GenerationB.org

Welcome to

GenerationBIG

Do You Want To:

Give Back to your community? Volunteering just an hour a week can make a huge difference in a child's life.

Help Kids? Studies show that your friendship and mentoring improves school attendance, self esteem and aspirations for the future.

Challenge Yourself to put a lifetime of experience to use? Your life skills, patience and kindness are desperately needed in your neighborhood.

Stay Active by working with children? Helping others will put a spring in your step. **GenerationBIG** is a great way to stay sharp and active!

Make Friends with the other mentors on your team as well as your Little? So, in addition to a lifelong friendship with your child, you'll also be part of a team of **GenerationBIG** mentors.

Have Fun playing games and telling stories? It's surprisingly simple to help – just open your heart and have fun.

Make a Difference! Studies show that mentoring a child has a profound impact on their life. Compared to their nonmentored peers, they are:

- 52% less likely to skip school
- 46% less likely to begin using illegal drugs
- 30% less likely to hit someone



Mentors Needed: These four elementary schools need 20 GenerationBIG mentors each:

- **Ballard:** Adams Elementary, 6110 28 AV NW. Seattle, WA 98107
- **Bothell:** Frank Love Elementary, 303 224th St. SW, Bothell, WA 98021
- **Central Seattle:** Bailey Gatzert Elementary, 1301 E Yesler Way, Seattle, WA 98122
- **West Seattle:** Highland Park Elementary, 1012 SW Trenton St. Seattle, WA 98106

*Note: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound is actively looking for mentors for many other schools in the Puget Sound. **GenerationBIG** currently operates in these four schools.*

Frequently Asked Questions

When and where do you meet?

Mentors meet at the school before, during, or after the school day.

How much time does it take?

One hour per week during the school year, plus mentor meetings.

Do you meet individually or as a group?

Mentors meet with their youngsters one on one. They will meet monthly with a group of mentors.

What is the Application process?

Once you contact Big Brothers Big Sisters you will be asked to fill out an application that includes a background safety check, an in-person interview and several personal references to ensure child safety.

Is there an application deadline?

Applications are due by July 31st in order to be ready for the start of school in September.

How long is the program?

You'll meet with your Little during the school year (Sept. 2009 to June 2010). Most mentors find it so rewarding that they continue to see their youngsters for several years.

What about vacation, illness or other absence?

Consistency is the key to a successful mentoring relationship. That said, communication can go a long way. We understand that things come up and ask only that you communicate conflicts to both your Little and your Match Coordinator.

What if I need help or we don't get along?

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound has been successfully matching and supporting pairs of kids and mentors for more than 50 years. In addition, there are gatherings at Senior Centers to talk about mentorship.

www.GenerationB.org

877-700-BIGS