



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Medicine Hat & District

Annual Report 2016



Invest in Your Community

Change

A Child's Life

This report brought to you by

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Message from Mayor **TED CLUGSTON**



As patron of Big Brothers Big Sisters Medicine Hat and District, I am happy to congratulate the staff, volunteers and partners on their outstanding work. Hatters are known nationally for their generosity. We can be proud of this reputation, because every act of compassion has a positive impact on society. When we give, we not only change the lives of those we help, but also inspire others looking for ways to get involved.

Each time a child is paired with a mentor or introduce a group of students to an in-school program, something incredible is started — a life-changing relationship built on friendship, trust and empowerment.

Research has demonstrated that mentoring programs have dramatic and measurable impact on the lives of young people, including decreases in risky behaviour and violence, and increases in positive civic engagement.

The men and women who have contributed to the continued success of Big Brothers Big Sisters Medicine Hat play a vital role in our community and create a ripple effect. By transforming the lives of our youth, by brightening their days and broadening their sense of the world, they are opening their minds to new perspectives and to everything that is possible when we all do our part.

A huge thank you to Big Brothers Big Sisters Medicine Hat and District for laying a solid foundation on which to build a promising future for our youth and a smarter, more caring community for us all.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ted Clugston".



Message from the **PRESIDENT**

Big Brothers Big Sisters has been delivering quality Mentoring programs in Medicine Hat for more than 41 years and we have seen, first hand, the positive effects of focusing on our matches.

Following the BBBS of Canada's National Standards Requirements, means that best practices have been tried, tested and evaluated to provide the most effective methods for recruiting both "Mentors" and "Mentees", screening them, training both the Mentor and Mentee, and matching them based on common interests and experiences, leads to long term, deep rooted friendships between the mentor and mentee.

We must reinforce local fundraising efforts to contribute to the sustainability and growth of our agency and resources to support local activities. By continuing to demonstrate our commitment to our principles, we enrich ourselves and the lives of those we are dedicated to serving.

To all of our corporate sponsors, foundations and individuals who have so generously contributed to support our youth we offer a huge thank you! Without you we could not provide the high level of service of which we are so proud. Also, a big thank you all the agency volunteers whose hard work continues to improve the fabric of our community one match at a time.

Darren Folkersen

Our Board of **DIRECTORS**

Darren Folkersen
President

Ryan Sirovyak
Treasurer

Bobbi-Jo Whitfield
Secretary

Jamie Sawatzky
Director

Lee Krazilowez
Director

Karen Taylor
Director

Ted Clugston
Director

Candace (Candy) Neumann
Director

Rob Ferguson
Director

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start something

There is no more important investment we can make than in helping our local children realize and share their full potential.

Serving as role models, our mentors teach by example the importance of giving and giving back, of staying in school, and for having respect for family, peers and community.

Each time we pair a child with a mentor or introduce a group of students to a group program, we start something.

We offer a variety of different program options to choose from and are certain that one of them will be of interest to you.

Mentoring PROGRAMS

ONE-TO-ONE MENTORING PROGRAM

- Matches children and youth with a volunteer Big Brother or Big Sister in a one-to-one mentoring relationship
- Generally requires a commitment of one to four hours a week for up to one year
- Activities can be as varied as one's imagination!
- Ideal for individuals who have the time to commit to a longer term friendship with a child or youth

IN-SCHOOL MENTORING



- Matches children and youth with a mentor who meets with them in school
- Generally requires a commitment of one hour a week
- The volunteer and youth meet at school and participate in a wide range of activities
- Ideal for individuals looking for a shorter term commitment who can give time during school hours

GO GIRLS! Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds



- Group mentoring program where female mentors encourage physical activity, healthy eating and the development of a positive self-image among girls aged 12 to 14
- Structured around three themes: active living, balanced eating, and feeling good about oneself
- Fun, educational games and activities enhance the learning experience
- Ideal for outgoing women looking to provide positive guidance to a group of young girls

GAME ON! EAT SMART, PLAY SMART, LIVE SMART!



- Group mentoring program for boys, delivered by male mentors, that is designed to provide boys with a positive male role model, and support boys and young men in choosing to maintain a healthy, active lifestyle
- Positively address physical activity, healthy eating, nutrition, self-esteem, leadership and communication skills
- Ideal for energetic men looking to provide positive guidance to a group of youth

TEEN MENTORING



- Matches caring, responsible high school students with an elementary school aged child in a group in-school mentoring friendship
- Teen mentors generally spend one hour each week with a boy or girl at their neighbouring elementary school
- Ideal for teenagers looking to make a difference in the life of a child or youth

WAIT LIST PROGRAMS

- Check with our agency to see if they offer a program for children and youth who are waiting for a mentor

This can be an ideal introduction to mentoring!

Sarah and Chynna
Now and Then!



We received a box suite for our littles to enjoy a Tiger's Hockey game! *Fall 2016*

Did you **KNOW?**

Studies have proven that mentored youth are:

2X more likely to feel less lonely and isolated.

They are proven to have better relationships with their parents and siblings.

80% of adults who had a mentor said they pursue a healthy lifestyle.

Girls who were mentored were 2X less likely to be depressed.

Boys who have a mentor are 3X less likely to have social anxiety.

Girls with a "Big Sister" are 4X less likely to bully than girls without a mentor.

Youth with a mentor are 34% less likely to allow themselves to be victimized or bullied by peers.

Youth who are mentored Possess:

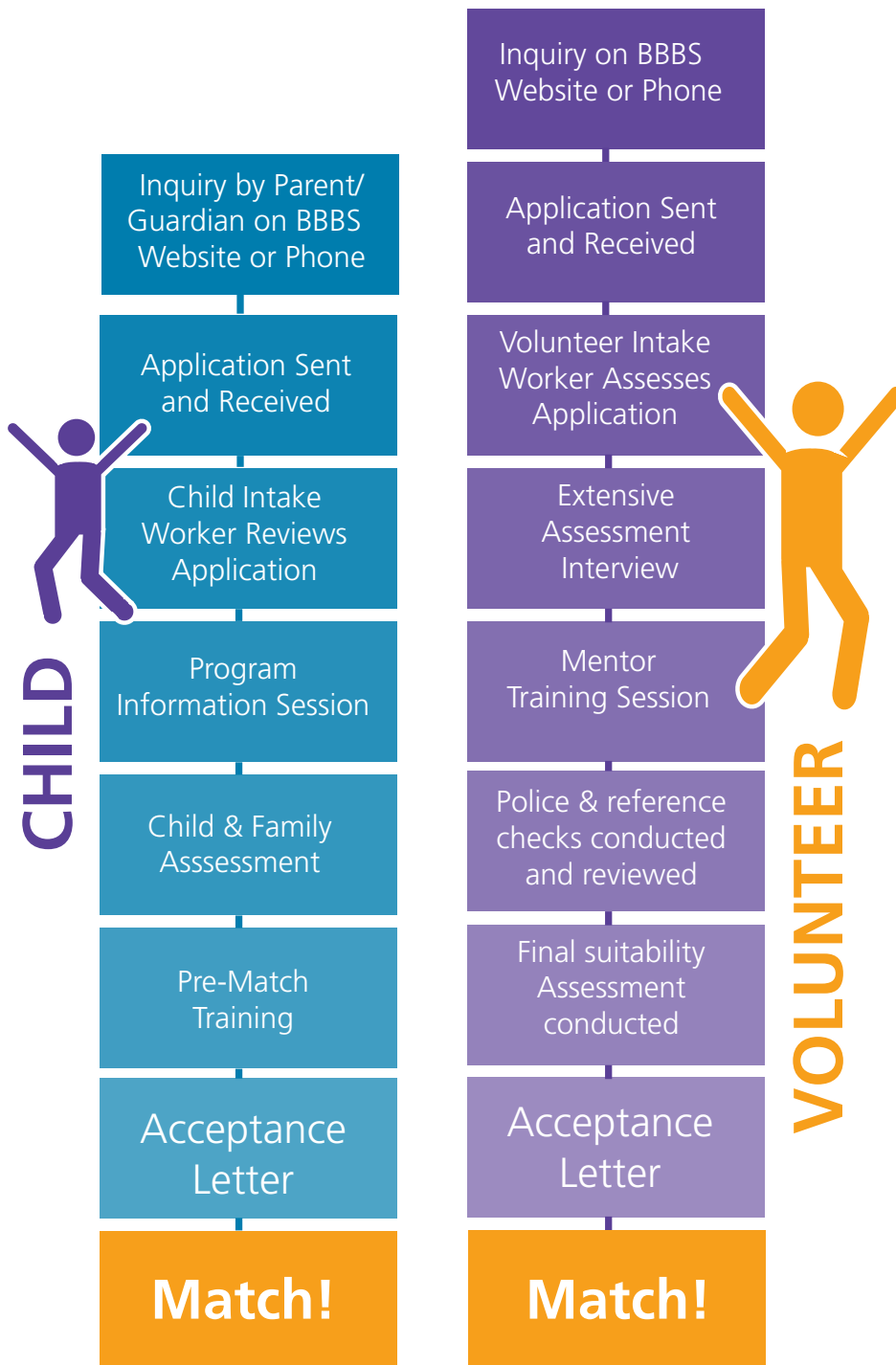
- Increased Self-confidence
- Ability to express feelings
- Positive Attitude towards school and academic performance
- Decision-making
- Sense of the future
- Improved Relationships with peers, their family and adults

Rhys and Hunter
Now and Then!



The Match PROCESS

Matching a child with a mentor is an intense process dictated by strict standards of child safety. A tremendous amount of time, care and effort is taken to ensure our matches are successful.



Conducted by Professionally Trained BBBS Staff

GET INVOLVED

BE A FORCE OF CHANGE

When you help children facing adversity, you create opportunities for success – for them, for you, for our community. There are so many opportunities to create change – find one you believe in.

DONATE

Your donation or sponsorship today changes a life tomorrow, strengthens our communities and ultimately improves our city. Change lives by making a donation.

VOLUNTEER

The time you spend as a volunteer mentor with BBBS Medicine Hat works to improve a child's life by increasing self-esteem and academic performance while simultaneously decreasing risky behaviours. Help a child choose the right path, become a mentor. You can also support BBBS Medicine Hat by volunteering at our many fundraising events.

ADVOCATE

There are so many ways to advocate for BBBS. You can advocate to help change lives by encouraging others to volunteer as a mentor or as an ambassador, helping raise money to fund our programs. You can talk to your employer about matching gifts or creating an employee volunteering initiative to support our programs. You or your company could host a third party event to raise funds and awareness about BBBS.

Report from the **TREASURER**

Total revenues in 2016 increased by 5% or \$14,522 to \$306,459, due primarily to an increase in grant revenue after a one-time grant was received in 2016. This was a pleasant surprise as prior to obtaining the grant the organization had received notification from funders that grants would be down this year due to the economic outlook in the province.

Total fundraising and donation activities however compare less favorably year-over-year, decreasing by 22% or \$47,914, highlighted by decreasing revenues from Bowl for Kids, Birdies for Kids, and other miscellaneous fundraisers. The organization is actively engaged in developing new fundraisers and improving existing ones in response to the declining performance of our traditional fundraisers.

Overall expenses increased by 0.7%. The overall increase in expenses came from upgrading office equipment using a grant obtained for that purpose.

Salaries and benefits costs, our largest expense, increased by 1.38% or \$2,313 as our matches continued to grow. As in the prior year, the organization decided to service the increased demand for Big and Little matches rather than cutting back by financing programs using cash reserves.

The above resulted in a net deficiency of revenue over expenses, or loss, of \$7,446 compared to a deficit of \$19,763 last year.

The Agency's financial condition as reflected in the Statement of Financial Position, while weakened due to the deficits incurred in 2015 and 2016, nevertheless remains healthy. We continued to meet our strategic objectives in 2016 without significantly reducing the organization's cash reserves and ended the year with nearly \$112,000 in cash and securities in our accounts.

While 2016 was another challenging year financially for all non-profit organizations including our own, we are forecasting a return to positive cash flows in 2017. We're optimistic that we can continue to work creatively and manage our resources in a manner that will enable the Agency to remain at the forefront of providing our children and youth with mentoring that makes a BIG difference.

Ryan Sirouyak, CPA, CA, (IL, CPA) U.S.

Statement of FINANCIAL POSITION

	2016	2015
Assets		
Current		
Cash (Note 3)	32,890	45,743
Restricted cash (Note 4)	2,457	11,991
Accounts receivable (Note 5)	10,565	6,386
Short-term investments (Note 6)	20,932	-
Prepaid expenses and deposits	297	-
	67,141	64,120
Investments (Note 6)	4	20,464
Managed fund (Note 7)	44,826	42,014
	111,971	126,598
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accruals (Note 8)	26,176	17,855
Deferred contributions (Note 9)	8,737	24,239
	34,913	42,094
Net Assets	77,058	84,504
	111,971	126,598

Approved on behalf of the Board of Directors



Statement of OPERATIONS

	2016	2015
Revenue		
Fundraising revenue (Schedule 1)	171,849	219,763
Donations	69,055	42,441
Grant revenue	59,395	26,900
Investment income	6,160	2,833
Total revenue	306,459	291,937
Expenses		
Salaries and benefits	169,757	167,444
Fundraising expenses (Schedule 1)	55,879	48,486
Gift-in-kind expense	20,529	28,051
Office	14,686	7,337
Rent	12,600	12,600
Travel	7,609	3,843
Program expenses	7,598	3,831
Licences and fees	7,057	7,652
Insurance	5,108	6,101
Professional fees	3,571	8,916
Telephone	3,279	3,747
Advertising	2,559	4,045
Goods and Services Tax	1,827	1,603
Bookkeeping	1,500	6,000
Training and education	195	58
Bank charges and interest	151	1,986
Total expenditures	313,905	311,700
Deficiency of revenues over expenditures	(7,446)	(19,763)



Thank You to OUR SPONSORS



Servus Credit Union Bowl for Kid's Sake 2016

Servus Credit Union, Canadian Tire, CF Industries, DNow, MacKenzie Eye Care, Niblock & Company, AutoStar, CanCarb, Medicine Hat Optimist Club, Tim Horton's, Enerplus Corporation, Energy East Pipeline Ltd, Chris Baba Professional Corp, Burns Valkenberg & Associates, Grover Dental, Fountain Tire Ltd, A.C. Elder

MDA Golf Tournament 2016

Local Public Eatery, Wakefield Canada Inc., Scotiabank, ProComm, Moxie's, Sterling Trailers, Jackson Dodge, MDA, General Bank of Canada, GM Financial, First Canadian Group of Companies, RBC, BMO, Pat's-Offroad Transportation, PBS Systems, Autotrader.ca, LL Renaissance, TD Auto Finance, RSR Global, Burns Valkenburg & Associates, Quick Way Electrical, Mr. and Mrs. Sudz Auto Detailing, Hranco Industries Ltd, Davis GMC Buick, Unifirst Canada Ltd, District Bar and Grill, Dealer Socket, Line-X, Autovance Technologies, Ambrosi Insurance, WD Co-Auto, South Country Co-op

WestJet Raffle 2016

WestJet, Cancun, Sunshine Village Ski Resort, The Old Spaghetti Factory, Travel Unlimited, Med Hat Cruiseship Centers, Canadian Rockies, Hot Springs, Via Rail Canada



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#201-665 Kingsway Ave SE
Medicine Hat, AB T1A 2W8

p: 403.527.6640
f: 403.526.7998