Volunteer | Enroll a Child | Donate

National Volunteer Week

It's our favourite week of the year!

Between April 16-22 we celebrate our amazing volunteers and this time we highlighted two special Mentors, Lars and Sarah.

Meet Lars, he's been a Big Brother for more than 10 years! For the last eight of those he's been a Mentor to his Little Brother, Francesco. They love skiing, watching movies and trying to find the best pizzeria in Vancouver.

Here's a sneak peek into his story:

"Mentoring is really just being a good role model and acting in a way that you think is the way that you'd like the world to be and providing that guidance indirectly. The program is always relationship-first. Build the relationship with your Little and I think the mentorship kind of comes naturally," Lars said.

Read his volunteer feature here.

Meet Sarah, she was a Teen Mentor for four years! From Grade 9 to 12, Sarah mentored four Little Buddies and learned so much along the way. She was also nominated and won the Ted Rogers Scholarship for exceptional volunteerism in 2022.

Here’s a snippet about her experience:

“Sometimes I would be really tired after school. But then, after coming to Big Brothers, I noticed that my mood would feel better afterwards even though I was like running around and doing a bunch of activities as well. Just doing something different and knowing that you’re building a connection with your Little Buddy gives me so much energy.”

Read her volunteer feature here.

Got a story to share? We love to hear from our Guardians, Bigs, and Littles!
Reach out to ngalimski@bbgvf.com to connect with us.

Share your story

Vancouver Public Library Hide & Seek

Ready or not – here we come!

Bigs and Littles had 90 seconds to scramble and find the best hiding spots behind bookshelves, under desks, and in tucked away nooks.

What a day it was exploring the Vancouver Public Library’s central branch in such a fun way!

Besides hide and seek, Bigs and Littles were also taken on a tour of all nine floors of the iconic building – from the basement to rooftop balcony – and had a chance sign up for library cards.

Thank you so much Vancouver Public Library for hosting such a great event!

Turquoise Goat Partnership

We have an awesome new partnership for Bigs and Littles to take advantage of!

Turquoise Goat, a board games café, has joined our Big Deals Discount Card. Yay!

That means Bigs and Littles now have access to their catalogue of 300+ board and card games plus the support of their Game Stewards who are happy to recommend and teach you games.

How it works:

1. Reserve a table by emailing Turquoise Goat and state you are from Big Brothers.

2. They will help find the best date/time if the one you are requesting is not available.

3. Show your Big Brothers ID at check-in to qualify for the $5 discount entry.

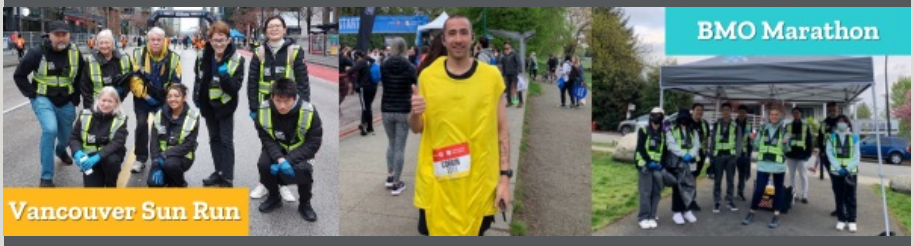
Email: reservations@turquoisegoat.com

If you visit, don't forget to write a thank you card, email or let us know about your experience so we can let them know that their generosity and partnership is appreciated!

Reach out to carla.gonzalez@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca to connect.

This partnership and deal is exclusive to matches in our Big Brothers Community Program, where both the Little and Big Brothers are present. You will need to bring your Big Brothers ID – if you do not have one, please contact us or your Mentoring Coordinator.

Vancouver Sun Run & BMO Marathon



Did you catch our banana runner at the Vancouver Sun Run and BMO Vancouver Marathon?

We sure did because that was our Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver board member, Connor!

We also had a team of runners racing to raise funds for youth mentorship.

So, thank you to everyone across our communities for making a BIG impact!

We raised a combined total of $2,670 and collected more than 1,600 KG (that’s 3,500+ lbs) of clothing donations. Woo-hoo!

Of course, none of this would have been possible without all of YOU,

our volunteers, who helped set up, collect clothing, and run the events with us.

The impact we can make is bigger together.

To get involved at one of our events click the button below or email us at abecerril@bbgvf.com.

Join us at our next event!

IKEA Clothing Drives

We're happy to share that we collected more than 1,500 Kg (3,400+ lbs) of clothing and 1,200 Kg (2,700+ lbs) of books and miscellaneous donations from IKEA Coquitlam and IKEA Richmond during our Earth Day Clothing Drive on April 22.

Thank you to everyone who came out to renew, reuse, and recycle to support local youth mentorship!

You can expect our next IKEA Clothing Drive to take place in autumn this year.

Missed our donation drive? No worries! Book a free donation pick-up online.

Book a donation pick-up

Volunteer Info Sessions

Thank you to everyone who attended our new monthly volunteer info sessions on April 14 and May 12!

Our next volunteer info session will take place on June 23.

We still have a BIG need for volunteers to match every child in our programs with mentors. This includes the critical shortage of more than 30 volunteers for our Big Brothers Community Program in Surrey.

If you know someone who would make a great mentor, please spread the word and share this opportunity to learn more about the volunteer opportunities in our communities.

Register free here or click the button below.

Volunteer info session sign-up

Volunteer Fairs and Events

Big Brothers OF GREATER VANCOUVER

VOLUNTEER FAIRS & EVENTS

We've been busy getting out in the communities and meeting all of you!

We've visited the White Rock Volunteer Fair, Volunteer Job Fair at Coquitlam Public Library, Burnaby Blooms Festival, Invergarry Adult Education Centre Community and Career Fair in Surrey, the First Annual North Shore Volunteer Fair in North Vancouver, and more!

Some of the next volunteer fairs and events you can catch us at are:

- May 31st with Urban Rec at the Richmond Oval from 7pm to 9pm.

- June 5th with Urban Rec at Ken Woods Field, on the UBC campus, from 6pm to 8pm.

- June 26th at the PICS Car Rally and Walk for Drug and Gang Free Communities in Surrey (12725 80 Ave.) from 10am to 2pm.

- July 8th at the Multicultural Connections Fair at Lafarge Lake in Coquitlam from 10am to 6pm.

Make sure to come say hi at our booth if you are attending any of these events. Also, keep an eye on our social media for even more

upcoming events we'll be at.

Learn about our volunteer opportunities

Panago Fundraiser

Does it smell like pizza?

On Friday, June 23, you can help support Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver in a tasty way!

We'll be partnering with the Kennedy Heights Panago Pizza, in Surrey, to help fund our free local youth mentorship programs. One dollar from every small, medium, large, and extra-large pizza sold will be donated to support children our communities.

Now that's a snack we can get behind. Thank you Panago!

Order online at panago.com, call 310-0001 to place your order over the phone, or order in-person at the Kennedy Heights Panago Pizza.

Along with our volunteers, our generous donors and supporters help make it possible for more than 700 kids to have positive role models in their lives!

Support for youth comes from a variety of community partners such as municipalities, private foundations, and individuals.

It's donors like these that help year-after-year fund amazing, free, and accessible mentorship programs for all the young people in our local communities.

Please give a special thank you to the City of Surrey, Randall Foundation, and Maxwell Munday.

Canada
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United Way Lower Mainland
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British Columbia
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STAY CONNECTED

At Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver (BBGV), we acknowledge that the land on which we work and mentor is the traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-

Waututh; the Katzie, Kwikwetlem, Kwantlen, Qayqayt, Tsawwassen, Semiahmoo and the Stó:lō Nation.

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