



## Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Burlington County

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July 20, 1992

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### Mission Statement

To provide the opportunity for youth to achieve personal growth through the development of positive relationships with qualified volunteers under the guidance of professional staff,

Can you imagine what it's like to grow up without a mother or father? Over 13,600 children in Burlington County don't have to imagine. It's their reality every day. Unfortunately, a single-parent household often means the remaining parent must work two jobs to make ends meet. This means less time to spend with the kids.

The result? Children from single-parent households often become "at-risk children." They drop out of school. They suffer from low self esteem. They do drugs. They commit crimes. They become parents themselves at an early age.

**But you can help stop this chain reaction!** How? Make a donation to Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Burlington County. Our agency steps into the lives of these at-risk children to make a difference before it's too late. In a nutshell, we match friends — one adult to one child who needs stability and companionship. We offer four basic programs for at-risk children.

In each program, we match adult volunteers with children for one-to-one relationships. Each volunteer commits three to six hours weekly to this relationship for a minimum of one year. In these special friendships, emphasis is placed on positive growth for the child, including a strengthened sense of self worth and improved relationships and performance at home, school and in the community.

*"I want a Big Brother I can talk to," says nine-year-old Kraig from Burlington, waiting to be matched with a Big Brother. "Someone who will ride bikes, go swimming, and play baseball with me."*

A child shouldn't have to ask for such simple pleasures.

**Won't you please help us help these children?** When you make a donation, you're enabling at-risk children the chance to lead happy, loving, productive lives. Best of all, we provide all of our programs and services free of charge to these children.

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Continued . . .

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Of course, it takes continuous financial support from caring friends like you to keep us up and running. Presently, our funding comes from the following sources: 49% from fundraising activities and events, such as our popular Bowl for Kids' Sake; 46% from the United Way; and 5% from miscellaneous grants and donations. We'd like to depend less on fundraising events and United Way allocations — that's why we're conducting our first annual campaign.

**We hope we can count on you!** Please take a moment to fill out the enclosed coupon and return it with your tax-deductible donation today.

Here's a brief glimpse at what your money can help accomplish. A donation of \$250 will enable our staff to complete the initial match process, from screening and training an adult volunteer to assessing the child's needs. A donation of \$1000 will keep a match together for a whole year. (Wouldn't you feel great knowing you "sponsored" a special friendship for a year?) No matter what you donate, you're helping to make the "magic of the match" possible.

**Remember: Little People Need Big People. Help us make it happen!**

Sincerely,

John D. Pierce  
President

P.S. You can *really* make a difference  
in a child's life for just a few dollars!  
Invest in the future of Burlington County  
by donating to Big Brothers/Big Sisters.  
Complete and return the enclosed coupon  
with your tax-deductible donation today!