Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bay Area
Serving Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties

Mentor Volunteer Internship –KISMET /Job Description

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bay Area Mentor Intern (many positions available) Needed.

Purpose: Many children are presently living with single-parent families or in families where parents and family members cannot completely meet their needs. These children (both male and female between the grades of 3rd to 8th grade) need social/recreational development, emotional support and the companionship of an adult to supplement the work of parents, teachers, counselors, social workers and other social services and education professionals.

Time

Non paid Position beginning ASAP. Hours during the school year will be one day a week for an hour to an hour and a half with the exception of the school holidays. Mentors will meet on the campus of the child during the school year. During the summer mentor will be asked to only attend 3 field trips. While many of the volunteers serve longer than one year, the minimum expectation of any volunteer mentor will be one year, unless otherwise stated by the Match Support Specialist.

Location

Mentor will be matched with a child who ranges from 4th 8th grade in the Campbell Union School District. Mentor can also be matched with a child who ranges from 3rd to 8th grade in San Mateo County school districts.

Supervisor

Program Coordinator, Match Support Specialist and Site Supervisor

Duties & Responsibilities

The mentor will be assigned to a child and will be responsible for meeting the child on a weekly basis, 1.5 hours a week during the school year from 4-5:30pm. Mentors will just attend 3 field trips during the summer. This is a one year program and this is the minimum time accepted. The volunteer may be asked to work on certain aspects of thee child's development. He or she will work closely with agency staff through phone contact, personal conferences and group meetings to

better understand the child and his/her family and to facilitate activities to help the child. The volunteer will serve as an example/ role model to demonstrate that adults can give, and should receive, respect (and will make an occasional mistake). Self-realization and improved self-esteem for the child are important goals to the relationship.

It should be emphasized that the volunteer in no way replaces the parent or the family's social worker. Rather, he or she provides interested, compassionate friendship.

Requirements/Qualifications

Persons interested must have a reliable source of transportation (carpool, train, bus, car, and bike). The volunteer should have the ability to accept and relate to children who may not share the volunteer's lifestyle and values. The volunteer should respect the client's right to self-determination and independence. This respect is an essential element in the relationship. The volunteer should exhibit a great deal of common sense, intelligence, friendliness, maturity, sensitivity and responsibility.

All mentors need to go through the interview and background check, have 4 references checked and be accepted by the MSS committee of BBBS before becoming a mentor. Additional tasks that need to be complete: copy of drivers lisc., copy of car insurance, DMV check, TB test with in the last 2 years- legal documentation.

Student Contact: contact between Mentor and Mentee will only occur on school campus with site supervisor present on campus. Exceptions to this will be with parent permission on BBBSBA field trips. Mentor and Mentee will not contact each other via phone, email or in person visits outside of the school campus without site supervisor present.

Timely Communication: Return phone calls and contact the Site Supervisor to confirm next visit with Mentee. Return phone calls and contact to Match Support Specialist once a month to comment on how the match is going.

Location: During the course of interviewing and placement, volunteers will have the opportunity to state any preferences, and the agency will comply with these preferences as nearly as possible. Before making any match, project staff will consider location, interests, skills, background, knowledge and temperament of both the child and the volunteer.

Upon completion of his or her assignment, the volunteer may request a written performance appraisal from the Match Support Specialist. If for some reason the Match Support Specialist is unable to supply this, the

volunteer may request the same of the Site Supervisor or Program Coordinator.

Fact Sheet

Goals-Mission

We transform lives.

Big Brothers Big Sisters is the largest, most well-known, thoroughly researched and measured youth mentoring organization in the country. The heart of our program is a thoroughly screened adult volunteer mentor ("Big"), matched with a child ("Little") in a relationship that is carefully monitored and supported.

Effects you can measure

In a study conducted by Public/Private Ventures, a Philadelphia-based national research organization, researchers found that Little Brothers and Little Sisters were:

- 46% less likely to begin using illegal drugs
- 27% less likely to begin using alcohol
- 52% less likely to skip school
- 37% less likely to skip a class
- More confident of their performance in schoolwork
- One-third less likely to hit someone
- Getting along better with their families

Impact that's immeasurable

A neighborhood where kids have only drug dealers and gangbangers to look up to is one where kids don't expect to live past 25, or stay out of prison. Before they met their Bigs, Rickey and Olivia didn't think about the future much. Now, they think about it all the time. Instead of joining gangs, children with hope for the future turn their neighborhoods around. Instead of taking, they give back.

It's simple, when you think about it: kids with access to people who value work are more likely to value work. Kids with access to people who are responsible are more likely to be responsible. Kids with access to good people are more likely to become good people.

Having a responsible, caring adult friend makes a powerful difference to a child. Here's more evidence you can measure:

- 56% of Littles improve their relationships with their peers
- 55% of Littles are better able to express their feelings
- 64% of Littles develop higher levels of self-confidence

100 kids like these turn their neighborhoods around. 1,000 kids like these can transform a city. 5,000 kids like these can transform the whole Bay Area.

We want the Bay Area to have more kids with responsible mentors than it has kids in gangs.

Imagine the community impact.