

# BECOME A BIG STAR PARTNER

BIG Star Partnerships is a recognition program offered by Big Brothers Big Sister of Saskatoon (BBBS) to acknowledge the organization's commitment to community engagement and the mental well-being of its staff and youth in our community.

When you become a BIG Star Partner you are investing in your workplace culture to live out core values, invest in youth and give your employees the opportunity to engage with our community.

Employees feel appreciated and valued when their mental well-being is a priority. BBBS program evaluations repeatedly tell us both mentees and mentor benefit from our programming. We support our mentors' growth through professional training and resources. Our volunteers describe how beneficial mentoring was for them personally and professionally as they acquired new skills, expanded their perspective, tried new things and felt good about giving back to their community!

At BBBS we believe in the 'Power of an Hour'. You can build volunteering into your workflow by mentoring once a week over the lunch hour or allowing an hour during the day to spend with a youth. Mentors meet with their mentees in the community or during school hours if in the In-School Mentoring program. Enjoy activities such as board games, sports, crafts or chatting about each other's week!

Increasing positivity among coworkers and encouraging them to engage in volunteerism will only improve the environment and success of the company. A healthy company culture is no longer a perk; it's the key component to having employee success. We are excited to discuss time release, volunteer locations and further program options that will best suit your employee's workflow.

# OUR COMMITMENT TO MENTORSHIP

BBBS Saskatoon and Area is dedicated to understanding the needs of our youth and improving our programs. With the support of an external evaluator funded by the Community Initiative Foundation, we utilize the Developmental Relationship model to identify key outcomes in areas such as care, growth, support, power-sharing, and expanding possibilities. By collecting surveys and significant change stories from all stakeholders involved, we gain a comprehensive understanding of our program's impact and can make informed decisions to enhance the support we provide.

## Mentees Reported...

96% Trust their mentor

83% Has more confidence

80% Is more likely to try new tasks

65% Has better non-verbal skills

#### Social Emotional Competence

"I find it easier to talk to new people and to go to different places ... I never could do what I can now."

#### Educational Engagement

"I think it's just made me feel better about school. It helps to refresh my mind. I think it's important because when I don't like school, I know I have to come so I can see my mentor."

#### Mental Health & Wellbeing

"Growth matters to me because it taught me to recognize my needs, that it's okay to communicate and be curious, and how to express it. that is important because, in society, it's a good thing to have to ability to be open and expressive."

# HOW DO I BECOME A BIG STAR PARTNER? WHAT IS INCLUDED?

To become a BIG Star partner companies must have 5+ employees enrolled as a BBBS Mentor, we ask for a minimum of a year commitment upon match made or the duration of the school year. Company recognition begins once application and registration are confirmed by a BBBS team member. The date of confirmed registration will serve as the recognition renewal date.

Small Company

Under 100 Employees minimum of 5 mentors with BBBS Mid sized Company

100-499 Employees minimum of 10 mentors with BBBS Large Company

500+ Employees minimum of 15

mentors with BBBS

Our recognition program is ongoing as long as companies continue to meet the mentoring minimum criteria.

## YOUR RECOGNITION INCLUDES:

- 1. Web Presence: Your company name and logo will be prominently highlighted on our BBBS BIG Stars web page, ensuring visibility among our supporters and stakeholders.
- 2. Certification of Community Commitment: You will receive a yearly certification of community commitment that can be proudly displayed in your office. This certification is updated annually, showcasing each continuous year you remain part of the program. With each passing year, your commitment gains an additional 'Star' recognition.
- 3. Social Media Recognition: During BBBS Volunteer Appreciation Week, we will give your company social media recognition across our platforms. We encourage team members who are available to share quotes about their volunteering experiences with us so that we can feature them on our social media channels and even include them in a dedicated blog post on our website!
- 4. Logo Display: You will have access to the official BIG Stars logo that can be displayed proudly on your company website, demonstrating your partnership with BBBS Saskatoon.
- 5. Written Collateral Support: We provide written collateral for HR and Communications personnel within your organization to utilize for external communications content such as press releases, social media posts, newsletters, and webpage collateral related to your involvement with BBBS Saskatoon's programs.
- 6. Program Check-ins & Support: Our dedicated BBBS staff personnel are available for regular check-ins throughout the program duration to provide support whenever needed or answer any questions you may have along the way.

## **HOW TO REGISTER!**

OFFER the opportunity to volunteer with BBBS to your employees. We are always available to schedule a volunteerism presentation online or in person so they can learn more!

APPLY, employees apply to one of our mentorship programs.

FILL out our BIG Stars partnership form once employees have been matched to receive your recognition status!

For additional information or inquiries please contact, Alessya Lautner, Business Development Specialist: Alessya.lautner@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca | 306-203-3644

