

Big's Job Description

Mentor Role

- Take the lead in supporting a young person through an ongoing, one-to-one relationship
- Serving as a positive role model and friend
- Build the relationship by planning and participating in activities together
- Build mutual respect
- Build self-esteem and motivation
- Help set goals and work toward accomplishing them

Time Commitment

- Make a 9-month commitment
- Spend a minimum of 8 hours meeting 2-4 times per month for one-to-one contact with the mentee
- Communicate with the mentee on a weekly or bi-weekly basis
- Attend an initial training session within 3 months of being accepted into the program
- Attend optional group outings, training sessions and program recognition events

Participation Requirements

- Be at least 19 years of age
- Resident in the BBBS of Great Falls Local Service Area for a minimum of six months. (Reduction of this time requirement to 3 months for active military volunteers.)
- Be willing to communicate every month and as needed with program staff regarding activity information and take constructive feedback regarding mentoring activities.
- Be interested in working with young people ages 5-17
- Be willing to adhere to all program policies and procedures
- Be willing to complete the application and screening process
- Be dependable and consistent in meeting the time commitments
- Attend mentor training sessions
- Have a valid driver's license, adequate vehicular transportation and evidence of current insurance
- Facilitates a criminal record check
- If a history of alcohol or chemical dependency exists, the applicant must be sober/chemically free for a minimum of one year

Desirable Qualities

- Willing listener and ability to form a lasting relationship
- Encouraging and Supportive
- Patient and Flexible
- Tolerant and respectful of individual differences

Benefits

- Personal fulfillment through contribution to our community and a young person
- Satisfaction in helping someone mature, progress, and achieve goals
- Participation in a mentor support group
- Mileage and expenses are tax deductible
- Personal ongoing support, supervision to help the match succeed
- Mentee/mentor group activities, complimentary tickets to community events, participant recognition events
- Training sessions and group activities

Application and Screening Process

- In-person volunteer interview. Approximately 1-1 ½ hours
- The Volunteer must complete and turn in application materials. These materials must be completed by the conclusion of the enrollment process.
 - The purpose of the interview is to determine the acceptability of the applicant for the program and to determine the strengths, weaknesses and personality traits of applicant.
- The volunteer must provide at least three references. See enrollment form for criteria
- Criminal Background Check, Motor Vehicle Check and MT Child and Abuse Neglect Check
- Mandatory New Volunteer Training
- A home visit may be necessary

Ineligibility

- Sporadic job history that may be symptomatic of the applicant's ability to maintain commitments
- Major upheaval (positive or negative) in applicant's life within the last six months that may affect the applicant's ability to be successful in a match
- History of criminal activity including, but not limited to:
 - Physical/Mental/Sexual Abuse of an adult or child.
 - Misdemeanor or Felony Offenses
 - Driving Violations (DUI, reckless driving, suspensions, accidents, etc.)
- Current substance abuse problems
- Current or recent history of mental problems
- Inability to establish and sustain close relationships
- Applicant receives negative responses from references

****Note: Rejected applicants can reapply to be volunteers after one year.*