

From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 1:22 PM
To: nhawes1@maine.rr.com
Subject: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine



SPCE Rotary Community Grant Application (2025-2026)

Contact Person	Eileen Veroneau Brown
Phone Number	(207) 808-0982
E-Mail Address	eileen.brown@somebig.org
Requesting Organization Name	Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine
Organization Website (if applicable)	Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine
Address	Street Address: 625 Main Street Street Address Line 2: P. O. Box 123 City: Westbrook State / Province: ME Postal / Zip Code: 04098
Is your organization a 501(c)(3). If not, do you have a fiscal sponsor?	Yes
Year Established	1995
Fiscal Sponsor Name (if applicable)	n/a
Type of Request	Community Building
Program / Project Name	Mentors for Maine Youth
Requested Amount	2500.00
Program / Project Description	Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine implements a focused, evidence-based mentoring program that creates and sustains transformative one-to-one relationships between youth (Littles) and carefully screened adult and high school student mentors (Bigs). While our program serves youth who have faced significant life challenges, research consistently demonstrates that all young people benefit substantially from a structured mentoring relationship with a caring, trusted adult. These relationships

catalyze positive youth development across multiple domains, including social-emotional competencies, educational engagement, and psychological well-being. The program's effectiveness is rooted in its dual delivery models:

Community-Based Mentoring provides flexible, relationship-centered engagement where mentors commit to meeting with their mentees a minimum of twice a month in community settings. These naturally occurring interactions—whether through recreational activities, educational pursuits, or shared interests—foster organic relationship development and create opportunities for meaningful dialogue and personal growth.

Site-Based Mentoring facilitates structured weekly meetings between carefully matched high school or adult mentors and elementary/middle school students in supervised settings, predominantly within school environments. This model provides consistent, scheduled engagement through academic support, enrichment activities, and relationship-building exercises that strengthen educational outcomes while developing crucial interpersonal skills.

Both program models are supported by BBBSSM's comprehensive match support system, which includes monthly professional staff check-ins with all stakeholders—mentors, mentees, and parents/guardians. These systematic assessments ensure relationship quality, address emerging needs, and provide targeted training and resources to maximize positive youth outcomes.

Through this carefully designed and monitored mentoring framework, BBBSSM cultivates enduring relationships that enhance youth social competence, academic engagement, and emotional resilience. The program's holistic approach equips participants with essential life skills and support systems that contribute to long-term positive outcomes across multiple developmental domains, positioning young people for success in education, relationships, and future endeavors.

Is this a time-sensitive request?

No

For Grant Requests over \$500 - Describe how you will define program/project success and what type of reporting or metrics you can provide to back to Rotary.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine (BBBSSM) draws upon decades of rigorous research and empirical evidence, both nationally and locally, demonstrating the transformative impact of structured youth mentoring relationships. Studies consistently show that youth who engage in professionally supported mentoring relationships experience significant positive outcomes, including enhanced self-efficacy, elevated academic and career aspirations, reduced engagement in risk behaviors such as substance use, and improved decision-making capabilities. To ensure program quality and measure impact with scientific rigor, BBBSSM employs validated assessment tools developed by Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. Our comprehensive evaluation framework centers on two primary instruments: the Child Outcomes Survey (COS) and Youth Outcomes Survey (YOS). These evidence-

based measurement tools utilize a robust pre- and post-test methodology to assess critical developmental domains, including scholastic competency and academic engagement, educational expectations and goal-setting, social acceptance and peer relationships, parental trust and family dynamics, and attitudes and behaviors regarding high-risk activities.

Our professional staff administers baseline assessments prior to match initiation, establishing comprehensive benchmarks for each participant. Subsequent assessments are conducted at annual intervals, beginning at the one-year match anniversary, enabling longitudinal tracking of youth development outcomes. This systematic approach to outcome measurement allows BBBSSM to demonstrate program effectiveness, inform continuous quality improvement efforts, and maintain fidelity to our evidence-based mentoring model.

Through this data-driven approach to program evaluation, BBBSSM maintains high standards of accountability while continuously refining our practices to maximize positive youth outcomes. This commitment to rigorous evaluation ensures that our mentoring programs continue to deliver measurable, lasting impact for youth throughout Southern Maine. The comprehensive nature of our assessment protocol, combined with our dedication to evidence-based practices, positions BBBSSM as a leader in youth mentoring and demonstrates our unwavering commitment to achieving positive, sustainable outcomes for the young people we serve.

Are there other ways that Rotarians can be of service to your organization/project/program (such a volunteering, mentoring, professional services)?

Absolutely! Rotarians can support Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine in numerous impactful ways beyond grant funding:

Mentoring: Rotary members could serve as volunteer Bigs (mentors) in our one-to-one mentoring programs, directly changing the life trajectory of a young person in our community.

Corporate Partnerships: We would greatly value introductions and connections to local businesses for sponsorships, in-kind donations, and partnership opportunities that support our mission.

Ambassador Role: Rotarians could serve as ambassadors for BBBSSM by raising awareness of our mission, speaking at community events, and helping recruit mentors and donors from their networks.

Board Service: We welcome experienced professionals to serve on our Board of Directors or advisory committees, bringing strategic guidance and governance expertise.

Skills-Based Workshops: Rotarians with professional expertise could lead workshops for our mentees.

Rotary's commitment to service and community development aligns perfectly with our mission to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth. We would be thrilled to explore multiple pathways for partnership with your club.

Jotform. Anywhere. Anytime.



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