



The Big Brother / Big Sister Program

**Be a Big Brother or Big Sister
Information Meeting
Wednesday 7:30pm
February 8, 1995
Basilica Rec Centre**

Myth

Being a "Big" requires a lot of time and is a huge commitment.

FACT

Our volunteers generally spend a few hours a week with their "Littles", depending of course on their schedule. "Bigs" see the time spent with their "Littles" as relaxing, fun and an opportunity to participate in activities they both enjoy.

MYTH

"Bigs" are young, single, athletic types.

FACT

People who volunteer to be "Bigs" do not have to be gifted athletes, community leaders or any other type of person. Our volunteers are just everyday people, from a variety of backgrounds and of all different ages.

MYTH

To be a good Big Brother or Big Sister you have to spend a lot of money going on super outings.

FACT

Not so! We encourage our volunteers to spend as little money as possible. "Outings" can be incorporated into your own lifestyle. Baking, fishing, walking, just talking... the list is endless. The focus of the program is friendship and guidance.

MYTH

The volunteer Screening Process is lengthy and intimidating.

FACT

In addition to an information session, a caseworker will need to meet with you in order to get to know you better. References and police checks are also obtained. The process takes approximately four weeks, and is painless!

MYTH

Many of the children in the program are "Problem Kids"

FACT

Little Brothers and Little Sisters are children from single-parent families. Like any other group of children, some may be having problems, but most just want an adult friend.

MYTH

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of P.E.I. has enough volunteers.

FACT

Although we have many successful matches, we always need more volunteers. The popularity of our program means that we have many children waiting to be matched. There are presently about 100 kids waiting to be matched, mostly boys.