

100 Years of History

Date	Event
1902	Ernest Coulter, court clerk, helps organize the first New York Children's Court; Ladies of Charity, later Catholic Big Sisters of New York, starts to befriend girls who come before the New York Children's Court.
1903	Businessman Irvin F. Westheimer befriends a young boy in Cincinnati, OH; seeds are formed for the start of Big Brothers in Cincinnati.
1904	Ernest Coulter founds the organized Big Brothers movement by obtaining 39 volunteers, who each agree to befriend one boy.
1912	<i>The New York Times</i> reports Big Brothers activity in 26 cities.
1914	Ernest Coulter embarks on nationwide lecture tour on behalf of Big Brothers; planning begins for a national Big Brothers and Big Sisters organization.
1917	The first national conference of Big Brothers and Big Sisters organizations is held in Grand Rapids, MI.
1923	Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., becomes treasurer of the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Federation; First motion picture based on a Big and Little Brother relationship is released by Paramount Pictures.
1925	President Calvin Coolidge becomes patron of the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Federation.
1930	Six hundred delegates attend a Big Brothers and Big Sisters Federation meeting in New York City.

100 Years of History

- 1934** President and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt become patrons of Big Brothers and Big Sisters Federation.
- 1948** Norman Rockwell produces the sketch that becomes a symbol for the Big Brothers Association.
- 1951** The Big Brothers of the Year program begins, Associate Justice Tom Clark of the U.S. Supreme Court and J. Edgar Hoover are named.
- 1958** Big Brothers Association is chartered by Congress.
- 1970** Big Sisters International is incorporated.
- 1977** Big Sisters International and Big Brothers Association merge, forming Big Brothers Big Sisters of America with 357 agencies.
- 1984** Big Brothers Big Sisters of America occupies its headquarters at 230 North 13th Street in Philadelphia.
- 1985** Big Brothers Big Sisters of America is honored with a commemorative stamp by the Postmaster General.
- 1995** Public/Private Ventures Study on Big Brothers Big Sisters Community-Based Mentoring shows measurable, positive results on youth who have a Big Brother or Sister, seminal research in the field of youth mentoring.
- 1997** President William J. Clinton holds Volunteer Summit in Philadelphia; Big Brothers Big Sisters plays key role.
- 1998** Big Brothers Big Sisters International is founded.

100 Years of History

- 2003** President George W. Bush announces three-year \$450 million mentoring initiative in his State of the Union Address.
- 2004** Big Brothers Big Sisters celebrates **100 years** of serving America's youth.
- 2006** First Lady Laura Bush stars in a public service announcement to recruit volunteers across the nation.
- 2007** Public/Private Ventures conducts a study on Big Brothers Big Sisters School-Based Mentoring program, reinforcing the value of strong, long-lasting relationships and leading to program enhancements.
- In a Super Bowl first, CBS, the NFL and Big Brothers Big Sisters joined forces to create a public service announcement that features the two coaches whose teams are competing in the game. Roughly 90 million viewers tuned in to watch the game and see Indianapolis Colts' Coach Tony Dungy and Coach Lovie Smith of the Chicago Bears underscore the importance of mentoring by referencing their real-life mentoring relationship.
- 2010** President Obama holds a White House National Mentoring Month Ceremony; Big Brothers Big Sisters attends and plays a key role.
- 2011** Big Brothers Big Sisters launches national mentoring initiative, *Start Something*.
- 2012** In January, Big Brothers Big Sisters releases first-ever, nationwide Youth Outcomes Survey (YOS) Report, which reflects the collective progress and success in three outcome areas known to significantly change the lives of children for the better, forever – educational success, avoidance of risky behaviors and socio-emotional competency.

100 Years of History

- 2014** Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters moves to new national standards for mentoring that include annual Youth Development Outcome goals for each child served. Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters celebrates **50 years** of serving Connecticut children. Nutmeg launches its Mentor Academy, a series of advanced training workshops for mentors who have already been matched with children.
- 2015** Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters wins National Quality Award.
- 2016** Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters celebrates its 50th Anniversary and having served 65,000 children.