



Big Brothers
Big Sisters.
OF SOUTHWEST
MICHIGAN

Benefit Dinner 2025

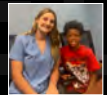


with Guest Speaker,

GREG KAMPE

Head Coach,
Men's Basketball
Oakland University

Monday, June 16, 2025



DO
SOMETHING
BIG

WE ARE BIGGER TOGETHER

VISION

All youth achieve their full potential.

MISSION

Create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth.



Benefit
Dinner
2025

WELCOME AND THANK YOU!

The Board of Directors, the Benefit Dinner Committee, and the staff of Big Brothers Big Sisters welcome you to the 48th Annual Benefit Dinner.

Since 1978, our Annual Benefit Dinner has played an important role – providing funding to help the agency match local children with mentors who ignite their potential and empower their resilience. The funding also provides ongoing professional support to current mentor and mentee matches. Each year, the money you help us raise at Benefit Dinner accounts for a significant portion of the agency's annual budget.

We are honored to have Greg Kampe here with us this evening. As a men's basketball coach and a passionate advocate for mentorship, Kampe is sure to deliver an inspiring and impactful message, valuable insight, and unwavering dedication to both the college game and the community at large.

Thank you for attending this year's event and for standing with us to empower the potential of local youth. Your support of mentoring ensures youth in Southwest Michigan achieve their brightest possible future.

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Amy Kuchta'.

Amy Kuchta
Chief Executive Officer
Big Sister to Chloe

We rely on our partnerships across our community- through the public, private, non-profit, and philanthropic sectors- as well as the dedicated support of our volunteers- to be successful in our mission to provide every child with an additional mentor who will ignite their potential.

Together, through collaboration and investment in mentoring initiatives, young people can access the tools and opportunities they need to become thriving members of a more equitable and prosperous society.

Big Brothers Big Sisters seeks to ensure that every child who wants a mentor has access to one, unlocking their full potential and setting them on a path to success. **It Takes Little to be Big. A few hours a month of mentoring can have a lifelong impact.**

RECRUIT



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FUNDRAISE



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Paint the Town Green is a weeklong campaign that celebrates the power of mentorship.

Designed to raise awareness—not funds—PTTG highlights the mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters and the life-changing impact mentoring has on youth. By participating, you'll help spark conversations, inspire others to become Bigs, and show that each of us has a role to play in creating BIGGER futures.

MENTORING MATTERS

Advocate for youth mentoring with us and help us find more mentors for local youth! We are Painting the Town **Green** with local businesses to bring awareness to our mission. For restaurants, this might look like creating a green specialty menu item for the week. For other businesses, this might look like swapping out their normal front light with a green one for the week, putting BBBS's message on their sign, having their staff wear green, etc. The options are endless.

Will you and your business Paint The Town Green with us?

WHEN: ALL WEEK LONG • SEPTEMBER 14-20, 2025

WHERE: KALAMAZOO, ALLEGAN, VAN BUREN, AND CALHOUN COUNTIES

Head to thinkbigtoday.org/paintthetowngreen to find more information and join in on the fun.

Questions? Please reach out to Amy Kuchta, CEO, at amykuchta@bbbsmi.org



ECONOMIC IMPACT RESEARCH

BRINGING THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY TO LIFE

Big Brothers Big Sisters of America launches groundbreaking research on the long-term impacts of mentorship

This **study completed by Harvard and the U.S. Department of Treasury** reveals mentorship as a cost-effective solution to drive socioeconomic mobility for youth in Southwest Michigan and nationwide. Rooted in 30 years of data, the study provides evidence of greater enrollment in higher education, increased salaries, reduced dependency on social services, and improved behavioral outcomes for mentored youth.



MENTORSHIP CHANGES LIVES

- Now, we have national Big Brothers Big Sisters research that shows that a caring mentor impacts a young person's present and shapes their future for years to come.

The impact has a ripple effect on the economy and society.

MENTORING BENEFITS EVERYONE

- Littles are 20% more likely to pursue post-secondary education after high school graduation.



MENTORING POSITIVELY IMPACTS THE ECONOMY

- Littles enter the workforce earning more than their non-mentored peers.
- They experience 20% higher income between the ages of 20 and 25.
- Littles' income as adults is more closely aligned with the higher income of their Bigs than their family.



**MENTORING IS NOT A 'NICE TO HAVE',
IT'S A NEED TO HAVE**

MENTORING PROGRAMS

Big Brothers Big Sisters' one-to-one mentoring programs are proven to help youth realize and own their potential.

COMMUNITY MENTORING

Mentor a child on your own or with your partner, sibling, or best friend as a Big Duo, or with your family as a Big Family. You and your Little can share everyday activities you already enjoy. Play a game or sport. Go on a hike. Read or draw. Visit a park or museum. Or just listen and nurture their inspiration. **You can make a BIG impact in just two hours, twice per month.**



HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL BIGS

This unique mentoring program provides value to High School/Middle School students (Bigs) by reinforcing social-emotional learning (SEL) competencies with their mentee (Little). They will meet at their Little's school during the Little's school day, at a standing day and time with support from their School Site Coordinator and their Mentoring Relationship Specialist.



SPORTS BUDDIES

Adult volunteers mentor youth who have a shared interest in sports, fitness, or just being active. Matches will meet 1–2 Saturdays per month for at least 6 months, gathering at BBBS-hosted events that include a mix of active and spectator sports. **Sports Buddies is for everyone; mentors don't have to be athletes to make a BIG impact!**



LUNCH WITH LITTLES

As a Big Brother, Big Sister, or Big Duo, you can mentor a child at their school or at a local community organization during the Little's school day or after-school. *Read more about this program opportunity on the next page!*



PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships make our mission possible. Partners and sponsors support us through philanthropic gifts that drive growth, employee-centric volunteer or donor partnerships, and collaborations that strengthen our community and commitment to serving individuals and families.



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for
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LUNCH WITH LITTLES

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OF SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN

TWO HOURS A MONTH. **CHANGE A LIFE.**

Click here to
learn more!



WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

THE COMMITMENT:

- + Lunch, 2 times per month
- + 45 minutes
- + Minimum of 1 school year

THE BENEFITS:

- + Being a role model
- + Leadership skills
- + Support local youth while having fun



YOU have the opportunity to be a Big, and mentor a child (a Little) at a local school. Be an additional role model to your Little while playing games, reading, doing arts and crafts, and more!

For more information, please contact:



Josalyn Kiplinger, Enrollment & Recruitment Manager
josalynkiplinger@bbbsmi.org | 269-488-2860

BBBSMI is thrilled to share that our agency has been named a **Growth Award Winner** by Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. **Out of 230+ agencies nationwide, ours is one of 40 to be recognized for excellence in growing the number of mentoring matches in our community.**

This honor reflects the unwavering commitment of our staff, board, volunteers, and supporters like you. **In 2024, we served 222 youth - a 14% increase from 2023.** While the need for mentors remains, we're encouraged by the growth we're seeing, and this award is a testament to that.

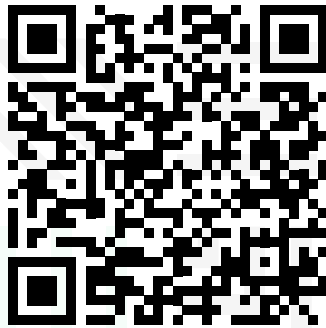


LIVE AUCTION

Do you see yourself **at a luxury resort in Mexico**? Or is a private plane ride to Wisconsin for a game of golf more your style? From vacation **getaways** to **exclusive entertainment**, there is something for everyone in this year's live auction.

The live auction will take place during dinner. You may preview live auction items at any time.

Scan the **QR code**, visit ThinkBigToday.org/auction, or review the program insert for details of this year's items.



Scan to **place silent auction bids** and **preview live items!**

SILENT AUCTION

Don't be outbid! The silent auction is open and you can **bid now**. Scan the **QR code** above or view the items online at ThinkBigToday.org/auction. Will you be the winner of a dining gift certificate, sports tickets, memorabilia or another exciting item this year?



Benefit Dinner 2025

EVENT SCHEDULE:

COCKTAILS & HORS D'OEUVRES

5:15 - 6:30PM

OPENING REMARKS

6:30PM

DINNER

AWARDS

SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS

RAFFLE

GUEST SPEAKER

Greg Kampe

PREVIOUS GUEST SPEAKERS:

2024	Jerome Bettis	2000	Ernie Harwell
2023	WMU Coaches Panel	1999	Bill Walton
2022	Jim Craig	1998	Kirk Gibson
2021	Wade Boggs	1997	Sparky Anderson
2020	No guest speaker	1996	Mike Singletary
2019	Austin Hatch	1995	Bill Laimbeer
2018	Gregory Kelser	1994	Rick Pitino
2017	Tim Lester	1993	Johnny Bench
2016	Kirk Cousins	1992	Dick Vitale
2015	Lloyd Carr	1991	Bobby Knight
2014	Jim Caldwell	1990	Terry Bradshaw
2013	John Beilein	1989	Mickey Mantle
2012	Tom Izzo	1988	Joe Theismann
2011	Jim Schwartz	1987	Gary Player
2010	Greg Jennings	1986	Jack Brickhouse
2009	Lindsay Tarpley	1985	Ben Davidson
2008	Mark Dantonio	1984	Mickey Spillane
2007	Bob Griese	1983	Bart Starr
2006	Charlie Weis	1982	Al McGuire
2005	Mike Ditka	1981	George Plimpton
2004	Sugar Ray Leonard	1980	Dick Butkus
2003	Chris Spielman	1979	Rocky Bleier
2002	Bo Schembechler	1978	Monte Clark
2001	Tom Izzo		



Benefit Dinner 2025

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Dan Jaqua	Matthew McDade
Darren Timmeney	Mike Seelye
Eric Dougal	Patrick Aldworth
Jacob Schupan	Quincy Jackson
Jason Falk	Ron Molitor
John Barry	Ryan DeNooyer
Lindsay Tarpley	Tom Hill
Marc Schupan	Zach Terrell
Matthew Kelly	

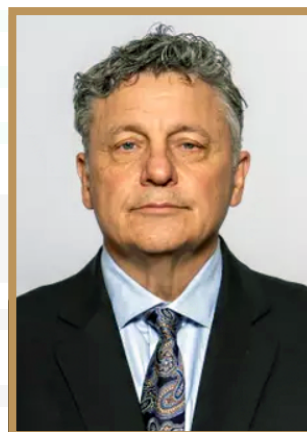
MOST VALUABLE PERSON

Each year this award is presented to a supporter who has given extraordinary support over the years to Big Brothers Big Sisters through personal commitment, volunteer involvement, and/or monetary contributions. Recipients of this award are selected by the Benefit Dinner Committee.

Past MVP Award Recipients:

1990	Glen Smith	2008	Greg Arvanigian
1991	Jack Moss	2009	Marc Schupan
1992	George Arvanigian	2010	Jerry Speedy
1993	Ben Brot	2011	James Grace and Sherry Butler
1994	Ronald Molitor	2012	Patrick Sweeney
1995	Marc Schupan	2013	Mary Tyler
1996	Michael Williams	2014	Terence Dorgan
1997	Joe Wilmarth	2015	Daniel Hinkle
1998	Mike Seelye	2016	Bradley Thompson
1999	Jon Bowers	2017	The Frizzo-Allkins Family
2000	Joshua Weiner	2018	Tom Hill Jr. Family
2001	Bruce Briney	2019	The LaPine Family
2002	James R. Jenner	2020	No MVP
2003	Ed Bernard	2021	No MVP
2004	Alan Enderle	2022	The DeNooyer Family
2005	William D. Johnston	2023	John Gilroy
2006	Patrick Aldworth	2024	Shaun Willis
2007	Dawnanne Corbit		

2025 BENEFIT DINNER SPEAKER



Greg Kampe, Head Coach,
Men's Basketball - Oakland University

Completing his 41st season as Oakland University's men's basketball head coach, Greg Kampe has built a program synonymous with success, resilience, and community impact. Under his leadership, Oakland has claimed multiple recognitions including joining the 700+ win club in November; a feat that includes only 38 other head coaches in the NCAA, and 70 total head

coaches across all college athletic conferences.

Kampe's impact transcends wins. He has mentored NBA talents like Kendrick Nunn and Kay Felder, coached 18 consecutive first-team all-league players, and led his team to eight 20-win seasons and six Summit League championships. His commitment to excellence earned him induction into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame in 2017.

Beyond the court, Kampe champions community service, raising over \$500,000 for cancer research and supporting initiatives like the Boys & Girls Club. For his dedication, he received the Sparky Anderson Community Excellence Award in 2016.

Guided by the mantra "Consistency is the hallmark of success," Kampe has transformed Oakland basketball into a national contender, with eight postseason berths and 32 professional players emerging under his tutelage. His coaching philosophy prioritizes student-athletes' growth, both on and off the court, ensuring they succeed beyond basketball.

From NCAA Tournament triumphs to his unwavering commitment to his players and community, Greg Kampe's legacy is a testament to the power of vision, dedication, and heart.

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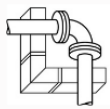


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