



## ***Big Brothers Big Sisters of the North Coast needs you!***

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the North Coast is calling on our community to help create brighter futures for Humboldt County youth. Whether you're an individual looking to give back, a business eager to show local spirit, or someone who simply wants to lift a glass in support of mentorship, your participation can make a meaningful difference. Keep reading to learn more!

BBBSNC is launching *Grandmas on Benches*, a group mentorship opportunity. This program places older adult volunteers on elementary school playground benches during recess and lunch to provide a calm and welcoming presence for students experiencing anxiety, loneliness, social isolation, or peer challenges. No discipline, no instruction, just listening, noticing, and caring. Volunteers sit on a designated bench, offer conversation and encouragement, and build trust through consistent presence. Research shows this simple approach increases students' sense of belonging, reduces playground conflicts, and supports social-emotional development.

For those seeking deeper involvement, *Big Futures* pairs young adults (ages 17-25) with experienced professionals to explore career paths and build essential skills. The impact is proven: Mentored youth experience a 15% earnings boost, are 20% more likely to attend college, and reduce the socioeconomic gap by two-thirds. As a mentor, you'll meet regularly with your mentee to discuss career goals, facilitate workplace visits, and support skills like resume writing and interviewing. **Please reach out to [kmixon@ncbbbs.org](mailto:kmixon@ncbbbs.org) to sign up or to learn more** about either program.

If you have a storefront and would be willing to help us promote Bowl for Kids' Sake: The Green and Black Gala, we would be indebted to you! Our vision is to create a stunning, areawide promotion during the month of February, as well as to drive sales for your business, especially those that have items customers can purchase for outrageous team costumes (think sequins, boas, metallics). Any business can participate by placing green and black merchandise in the windows to highlight our signature colors. We'll drop off a flyer for you to add to the window! **Email [office@ncbbbs.org](mailto:office@ncbbbs.org) to sign up or to learn more.**

## ***Save the Date!***

***Bowl for Kids' Sake*** | February 27-28, 2026

Help us reach our \$150,000 goal! Donate today to support life-changing mentorship programs. **Find information about sponsorship opportunities and team sign-ups at [www.ncbbbs.org/events/bfks.php](http://www.ncbbbs.org/events/bfks.php)**

***Pints for Nonprofits*** | Wednesday, January 28, 2026 | Redwood Curtain Brewery

\$1 from each pint sold benefits BBBSNC. Cheers to mentorship!