



**Big Brothers & Sisters  
of Portage County**

**NEWS RELEASE  
For Immediate Release**

**CONTACTS:**

Linda Carlisle, Associate Director  
Big Brothers & Sisters of Portage County  
220 W. Main Street  
Ravenna, OH 44266  
330.296.6655 or linda.carlisle@sbcglobal.net  
Website: [www.bbspportage.org](http://www.bbspportage.org)

**Waiting for a Mentor**

Portage County, Ohio, June 12, 2008 – Big Brothers & Sisters of Portage County has 71 children from 14 towns on the waiting list for a Big Brother or Big Sister volunteer mentor.

Locations where Big Sisters are needed: Atwater, 1; Aurora, 2; Brimfield, 1; Garrettsville, 1; Kent, 19; Palmyra, 2; Randolph, 1; Ravenna, 2; Rootstown, 1; Streetsboro, 2.

Locations where Big Brothers are needed: Brimfield, 1; Charlestown, 1; Edinburg, 1; Freedom, 1; Garrettsville, 1; Kent, 19; Ravenna, 10; Rootstown, 3; Shalersville, 1; Streetsboro, 1.

The one-to-one youth mentoring program at Big Brothers & Sisters is about adults helping young people to succeed. Children who are matched with a mentor benefit greatly. They are less likely to skip school, less likely to begin using illegal drugs, less likely to be involved in violence, more likely to get along with their families and peers, and more likely to finish high school. Research shows that one-to-one, professional supported mentoring has a direct, measurable and lasting impact.

Each adult volunteer is matched with a child who has similar interests. The adult and child meet three or four times per month for at least one year. Mentors are good listeners, tolerant and non-judgmental, reliable, and consistent. They also possess good communications skills, have a good sense of humor, and like children.

Please call today to learn how you can become a Big Brother or Big Sister and make a difference in a child's life. Call Big Brothers & Sisters of Portage County at 330.296.6655. Or visit their website, [www.bbspportage.org](http://www.bbspportage.org).