

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF CENTRAL MINNESOTA
EARN CHARITIES REVIEW COUNCIL “MEETS ALL STANDARDS” SEAL

September, 6, 2006 --- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Minnesota announces that it has been awarded the Charities Review Council “Meets All Standards” Seal indicating that it meets all sixteen of its Accountability Standards.

Nonprofit organizations such as Big Brothers Big Sisters earn the Seal by voluntarily participating in the Council’s online Accountability Wizard. The Accountability Wizard is available to all nonprofit organizations soliciting in Minnesota and addresses a nonprofit organization’s performance in four critical areas: Public Disclosure, Governance, Financial Activity and Fundraising. By participating in the Accountability Wizard, nonprofit organizations can demonstrate responsibility, integrity and transparency to their constituents.

Big Brothers Big Sisters is now listed as a reviewed organization on the online Giving Guide of the Council’s Smart Givers Network, www.smartgivers.org and the Council’s Smart Giver newsletter distributed to more than 18,000 subscribers in Minnesota. The listings help a nonprofit organization demonstrate its commitment to accountable ethical practices to the public and that it is a trustworthy organization. The Council’s Smart Givers Network is the source of unbiased information where smart givers come for help and resources on responsible giving. The giving public can investigate an organization’s mission statement and programs, so they can be sure of what their money supports and determine whether it meets widely accepted standards.

Big Brothers Big Sisters’ primary programs of service match youth with carefully screened, trained and supervised mentors to develop a nurturing and supportive relationship. These relationships serve to guide the children referred to the program in their decisions regarding delinquent behavior, self-respect, confidence, relationships, and scholastic performance. The mentoring relationships are proven to impact the lives and success of the youth and impact the community today and in the future.

For more information about Big Brothers Big Sisters call 320-253-1616 or visit www.bbbscentralmn.org.