



Greetings from Gillian,

Winter has past and, in my humble opinion, the most beautiful of seasons, Spring, is upon us! What joy, what an uplifting of the spirit and oh, the renewal of the soul and mind when the first buds appear on the trees knowing that the cold, ice and frost will not be here until next Winter!

Of course, one wonders if those same thoughts enter the minds of our county's needy families. Our community's children living in poor housing conditions who day after day, season after season have little if any hope for brighter expectations and who are just a little upset with their lives and who, for want of "improvement", "hang out" with negative peer groups and end up in what society terms as "anti social behavior" - ultimately resulting in juvenile delinquency. God, what a waste!

Clearly then, our mission offers to these families high quality responsive services since our agency can be depended upon to foster and nurture their youngsters. How you may ask – through MENTORING and its wraparound provision of services! Yes, the mentoring and guidance from someone outside the family who becomes a role model to encourage youth how to achieve higher academic accomplishments, to remain in school, become productive citizens and help in making positive life choices – yes - mentoring - to realize that life itself can be changed!!!. Fascinated by volunteering to be a mentor? Then call: 845 634 2199

This is the uniqueness of our program and **this** is the quality of the BBBS model and **this** is why compliance with Big Brothers Big Sisters of America as our casework watchdog, makes possible all the necessary safety needs of our county's children to be our number one concern! **Do you know of a child in need of our services? Then visit our website:**www.bbbsofrc.com

Our work is accomplished through the combined efforts and support of all those who share our mission: the hard work of our staff; the giving spirit of our Bigs and generous financial support from each and everyone throughout the county who donates through grants, corporate gifts, fundraising and private donations. Mentoring is the key to success – you know it and I know it. Please, won't you help us to continue this great and true value of life? Looking to help us? Please donate by going online to our website and under the link Donate: www.bbbsofrc.com

To this end, we are always looking for additional volunteers, particularly those interested in being mentors, tutors and financial providers - so if are already part of our family, please remember to ask any friends, relatives or neighbors who might be interested in being included on his multi award winning youth service team. *Curious? Then email me: gballard@bbbsofrc.com*

As we move forward, together, we will serve the thousands of children who are eagerly waiting to be matched with a Big. Together, we will change these children's lives for the better, forever. Want to learn more? Why not drop me an email, any time: gballard@bbbsofrc.com or you can also connect with us on Facebook

Words of Wisdom

"Look well into thyself; there is a source of strength which will always spring up if thou wilt always look."

- Marcus Aurelius