

Big Brothers and Sisters a 'Forbes' pick

'Forbes' magazine has selected Big Brothers and Sisters of America as one of only ten non-profits singled out on "a gold-star list" from its annual survey of 200 large charities. 'Forbes' stated in its Dec. 8 issue: "This century-old agency, with 471

chapters nationwide, has found its niche: mentoring troubled children of single parents. With donations running strong, it has set an ambitious goal of serving 1 million kids in 2010 — four times it's present load."

The 'Forbes' survey based its rankings on three key efficiency ratios:

Charitable Commitment indicates how much of total expenses went for the stated charitable purpose, excluding management, overhead and fundraising;

Fund-raising Efficiency measures the share of gifts after subtracting fundraising expenses; Donor Dependency is the operating shortfall (outlays minus non-gift income) as a percentage of gifts.

The 'Forbes' gold star is a tremendous honor, and Big Brothers and Sisters of Warren County plans to do its part in helping maintain that ranking.