

## Women's Fund El Dorado Site Visit Report 2018

### Big Brothers Big Sisters of El Dorado County

On February 23, 2018 Brenda Frachiseur, Executive Director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of El Dorado County met with members of the Site Visit Committee for an on site orientation. The Big Brothers Big Sisters of EDC received \$27,500 from the WFED Community Focus Grant for the Tomorrow's Path Together program in 2017.

Committee Chair Claudia Taylor and members Martha Hom and Jamie Hartshorn received a brief overview of the Big Brothers Big Sisters program for El Dorado County. The organization partners adult mentors with children ages 3-18. Children are referred for services by parents, foster parents and schools. Many children come from single parent homes and some from families with mental illness issues. Volunteer adult mentors are processed through interviews, reference checks and a complete background check. Trained mentors are then paired with a child and work with the assistance of a case manager through BBBS.

Tomorrow's Path Together is a program for the future dedicated to serve youth detained in Juvenile Hall in El Dorado County. The grant timelines for 2017-2018 are to complete a Best Practices design model, design a training program for mentors for this specific segment of the youth population, and recruit, screen, evaluate and train mentors. Mentors with compassion for this young, troubled segment of the population will be trained to address the needs of these youth. Tomorrow's Path Together combines BBBS, the Superior Court's Family Court Division and the El Dorado County Probation Department. Youth selected for this program include delinquent youth on informal or formal probation, youth being detained in Juvenile Hall or a treatment center, and youth who have been incarcerated and are pending release. (A change in law for 2018 places youth on Cite and Release –probation-for crimes rather than placement in Juvenile Hall.)

Big Brothers Big Sisters of El Dorado County has completed the program design for Tomorrow's Path Together. The program design is very well organized. They have started the mentor recruitment process with extensive input from case managers currently working with volunteers. BBBS hopes to start the specialized mentor training by June or July of 2018.

Claudia Taylor  
WFED Site Visit Committee