

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS MONTH



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oxford County

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Thank you, Warden Ryan, and Oxford County Council for celebrating with us, and allowing us the opportunity to share more about the work

Big Brothers Big Sisters is doing in Oxford County!



VISION

All young people realize their full potential.

MISSION

Enable life-changing mentoring relationships to ignite the power and potential of young people



WHO DO WE SERVE?

Young people who face adversity AND need an additional, consistent, and supportive Developmental Relationship!

#DYK

Did You Know....



- ❖ BBBSOC is a Social Service agency with professional caseworkers supporting programs that offer measurable outcomes.
- ❖ There are NO costs for families regardless of the program youth are involved in. No fees to enrol or participate in any activities we offer.
- ❖ We are highly requested and often referred to by other social service organizations throughout Oxford County.
- ❖ In 2023, BBBSOC supported 630 young people in Oxford County!

#DYK

Did You Know....



❖ BBBSOC does not receive ongoing government funding, all of our funding comes through grants, fundraising, sponsorship, and donors, with United Way Oxford being our largest funder.

Big Brothers Big Sisters is one of the only (if not the only) front-line social service agencies throughout Canada that do not receive ongoing government funding!

WHY ARE WE HERE TODAY?



We need your help!

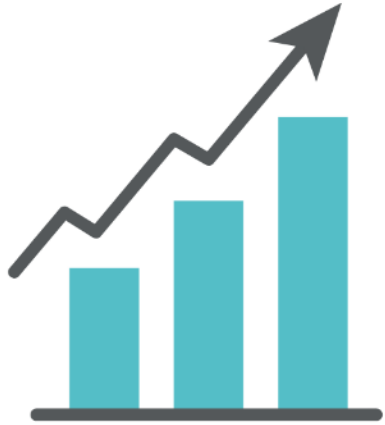
Help us advocate & raise awareness of the need for mentors in Oxford County.

We must be proactive in supporting our young people, to assist in addressing systemic breakdowns society faces today.

PROACTIVE vs. REACTIVE

Adverse Childhood Experiences

ACEs - Adverse Childhood Experiences can include things like physical and emotional abuse, neglect, social isolation, and parental separation or divorce.



The more ACEs a child experiences, the more likely they are to suffer from heart disease and diabetes, poor academic achievements, and substance abuse later in life.

This can also cause **toxic stress**. This excessive activation of the stress-response system can lead to long-lasting wear and tear on the body and brain. Similar to revving a car engine for days or weeks at a time.

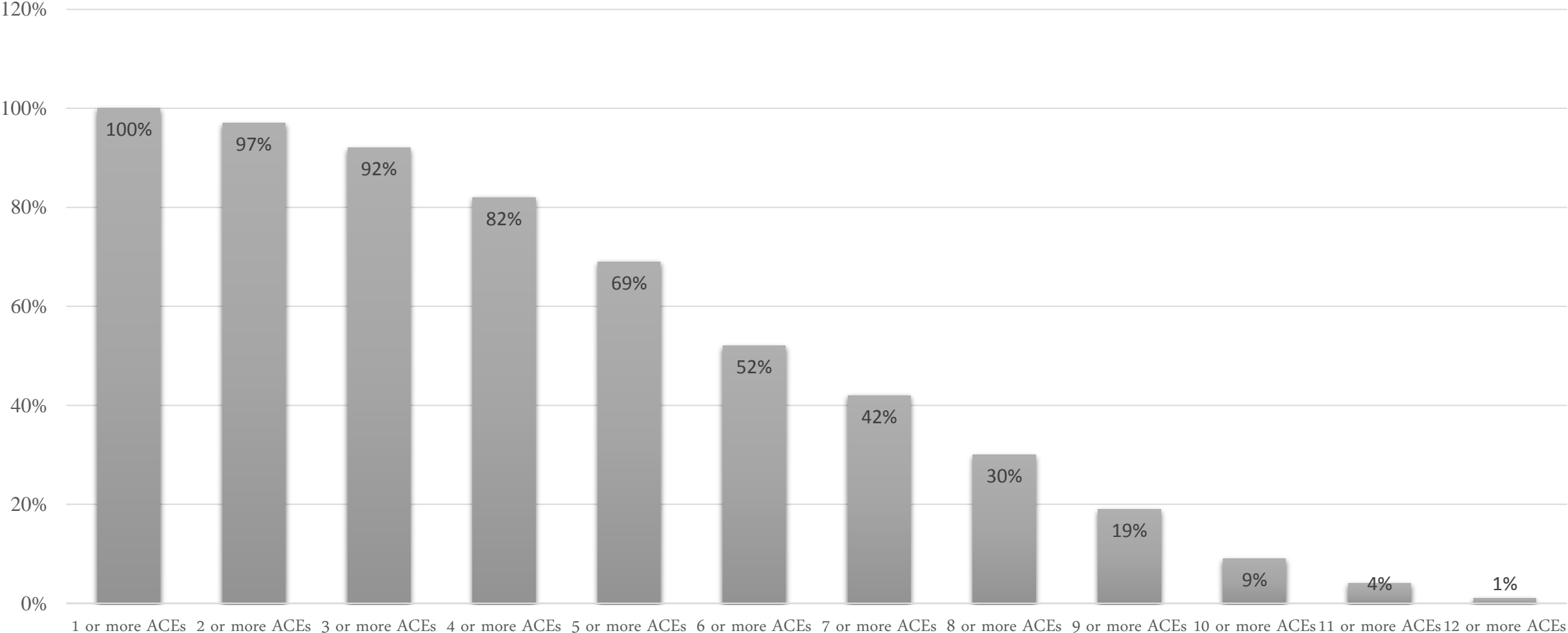


13 ADVERSITIES OF THE BBBS NEEDS REGISTRY

Adverse Childhood Experiences Tracked

1. The child is experiencing social isolation
2. Parental separation or divorce
3. The child has been involved or removed by Child Welfare Services
4. A household member has had a substance abuse problem
5. A household member has experienced mental illness
6. A household member has experienced incarceration or has been involved with police
7. The child has experienced bullying
8. The child has often seen or heard violence in their home, neighbourhood, or school
9. The child has experienced the death of someone close to them
10. The child arrived in Canada with refugee status
11. Exposure to financial stress or financial abuse
12. The child is exposed to a vulnerable employment standard
13. The child is coping or recovering from a mental health illness

OXFORD COUNTY STATISTICS – JULY 2024



We can reduce the effects of ACEs and Toxic Stress.

Being PROACTIVE:

The ideal approach is to prevent the need for these responses by reducing the sources of the stress.

An additional, consistent and supportive Developmental Relationship (a mentor) can lead to measurable outcomes in

- *Social Emotional Competence
- *Mental Health & Wellbeing
- *Educational Engagement &

Employment Readiness



WHAT IS A DEVELOPMENTAL RELATIONSHIP?

Close connections through which young people **discover**
who they are,
gain abilities to **shape their own lives,** and learn how to
interact with
and **contribute to the world**
around them.



WHO IS A **MENTOR** THAT IMPACTED YOUR LIFE?

Someone who:
Supported
Guided
Encouraged
Influenced
Motivated
Trusted, in you!



Liz with Mrs. Easton,
East Oxford Public School
Music Teacher.

Photo taken at Liz's grade 8
awards ceremony, receiving
the Music Award.

Testimonials From A Caregiver

“My son has experienced a lot of mistrust from male figures in his life. Trust isn’t something that comes easy for him. His mentor has shown patience and built trust with my son.”



Testimonial From A Mentee

“He's a really kind and caring person who really listens to people. He's been able to help me find some logic when my anxiety gets too much for me.”



Testimonials From A Mentor

“I can already see a lifelong friendship being built.”







Help BBBS
Say **YES!**

QUESTIONS?

www.bbbsoxford.ca

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P: 519.485.1801 | F: 519.485.1805

96 Tillson Ave. | Tillsonburg

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