



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Eastern Missouri

Rebecca (Becky) J. Hatter **President and CEO**



Becky has served for the past 23 years as the President and CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri (BBBSEMO). Under her leadership, the agency has grown from serving 300 children annually in 1994 to serving approximately 2,500 children today, an 800% increase. Presently, BBBSEMO is the largest youth mentoring organization in the State of Missouri and the 6th largest Big Brothers Big Sisters of America affiliate (there are 310 affiliates).

Her hard work and dedication have led to the agency being the #1 affiliate in the nation for quality service for five straight years and the only agency to ever be named, in one year, Agency of the Year, Board of the Year, Staff of the Year and # 1 in Quality Service.

Most recently, under Becky's leadership, BBBSEMO extended their promise to be there for their Little Brothers and Little Sisters through age 25. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri is the first agency in the nation to make this change.

Under Becky's leadership the agency has historically been committed to innovation and improved outcomes. In 2006, the agency launched ABCToday®, an early warning and

response system, which is working to improve education in Missouri by focusing on Attendance, Behavior and Course performance in reading and math. In 2015, ABCToday was incorporated as a national non-profit and it is currently accepting applications for expansion sites across the country.

The initiative has been named a national model by the U.S. Department of Education, State of Missouri, Civic Enterprises, a public policy firm in Washington D.C., Johns Hopkins University, the American Association of State Funded Colleges and Universities (AASCU). In addition, it has been lauded as a leading practice in education reform and student achievement. In 2013, Becky was honored by President Obama at a special event and reception at the White House and named a Champion for Change in educating African American children. In 2014, Becky was invited to return to Washington, D.C., as President Obama recognized Big Brothers Big Sisters for its efforts in college preparation, entry and completion rates.

Becky also launched Big Brothers Big Sisters Amachi Missouri, a statewide partnership program with other Big Brothers Big Sisters affiliates and the Missouri Department of Corrections, to serve children of incarcerated parents, one of our nation's most vulnerable group of children.

Becky has a long history, 28 years, with the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization. Prior to moving to St. Louis, she was the Vice President of Program for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Atlanta, the largest agency in the country during that time. She is also the founder of the Central Louisiana chapter of Big Brothers Big Sisters.

In addition to her job responsibilities, Becky, along with her husband have been a Big Couple to Little Brother Erick for the past 7 years. Becky also continues to keep in close contact with her Little Sister Ke'Sheara with whom she was matched for 17 years. In addition, she has served as a member of several local Boards of Directors including, Forest Park Hospital, RESPOND and Vision for Children at Risk, and has served as the Chair of the United Way Women's Leadership Giving Initiative for non-profits.

In November of 2014, Becky was named a member of the Ferguson Commission. The Ferguson Commission is an empowered, independent and diverse group that will study the underlying social and economic conditions underscored by the unrest in the wake of the death of Michael Brown. The Commission's charge was three-fold: conduct a wide-ranging, in-depth study of the underlying issues brought to light by the events in Ferguson; tap the expertise needed to address the concerns identified by the Commission – from poverty and education, to governance and law enforcement; and issue a report no later than September 15, 2015, containing specific, practical recommendations for making the St. Louis region a stronger, fairer place for everyone to live. Becky was appointed Chair of the Child Well-Being and Education Equity Work Group.

In 2006, Becky was a graduate of Leadership St. Louis and Leadership Missouri and was appointed to the Missouri Community Service Commission by Governor Matt

Blunt. She was recently honored by the Missouri Chamber of Commerce with the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Becky is a Louisiana native and holds a Bachelor's degree in education from Northwestern State University. She resides in St. Louis Hills with her husband, Bill and best pet, Partlie.