



# The Massachusetts Mentoring Initiative

Awards granted under the Mentoring Initiative support a variety of organizations that match young people with caring adult mentors. Funds can be used for volunteer recruitment, screening, training, program staff, and more.

A mentor is a positive role model (mentor) who provides access to people, places, and things outside a young person's (mentee) customary environment. Mentors help youth acquire important life skills such as decision-making, conflict resolution, and long-range planning while developing positive social skills and self-esteem.

## **2010-2011 MSA Funded Mentoring Programs:**

- Big Brother Big Sister of Central Massachusetts
- Big Brother Big Sister of Franklin County
- Big Brother Big Sister of Hampden County, Inc.
- Big Sister Association of Greater Boston
- Catholic Charities Bureau of the Archdiocese of Boston, Inc
- Center for Human Development (BBBS of Hampshire County)
- East End House, Inc.
- Family Service Association
- Family Service, Inc.
- Partners with Youth with Disabilities

"My Big Brother Rick has inspired me to sign-up for sports, to play basketball and baseball. Rick and I have been to many UMass basketball home games. I love UMass so much now that I want to go to college there and play on their basketball team. He has inspired me by bringing me to fun places. I make him laugh and he makes me laugh. He has also inspired me by helping with my reading. Every Saturday or Sunday we go to his house and read about four chapters."

*Derrick, Age 10, Hampden County*