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Big Brothers Big Sisters of Clarington Gets a Boost from the Bayer Fund

Local mentorship matching group is a recipient of last year's Canada's Farmers Grow Communities program.

July 8, 2019 – Clarington, ON – Local youth will benefit from an increase in support to Big Brothers Big Sisters Clarington (BBBS Clarington). Bayer Fund has awarded \$2,500 to BBBS Clarington to support costs related to staffing, child safety, volunteer training and more through its 2018 Canada's Farmers Grow Communities (CFGC) program.

"We operate basically year-to-year, so when unexpected opportunities like this come our way, it's very meaningful," said Darlene Brown, Executive director of BBBS. "It's the support of our community that really allows us to do what we can do for the kids in Clarington."

One of the most well-known programs that BBBS offers is matching mentors (known as 'Bigs') with kids in the community (known as 'Littles') so they can spend quality time together. One of the biggest costs for BBBS of Clarington is having professionally qualified and trained staff available to oversee the organization's programming, part of which will now be covered by the grant.

The Canada's Farmers Grow Communities program is aimed at strengthening rural communities by equipping local non-profit organizations with funds to carry out much needed community work. The aim is for farmers to help improve the lives of many people living in rural communities.

"Bayer recognises the value of having thriving rural communities across Canada," said Trish Jordan, Director of Public & Industry Affairs at Bayer CropScience.

"Big Brothers Big Sisters Clarington serves its community through mentoring youth and we are proud to be able to support their important work.

Brown encouraged other non-profit organizations to reach out to their local agricultural communities to let them know about the importance of grants like the one offered by the CFGC program.

"It's a good resource to tap into," said Brown. "I think it's great that the agricultural community is really looking to support community growth and development in this way."

The Bayer Fund, the philanthropic arm of Bayer, has supported the Canada's Farmers program to provide a total of 66 grants, each valued at \$2,500, to charitable and not-for-profit groups nominated by farmers.

For more information, media may contact:

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