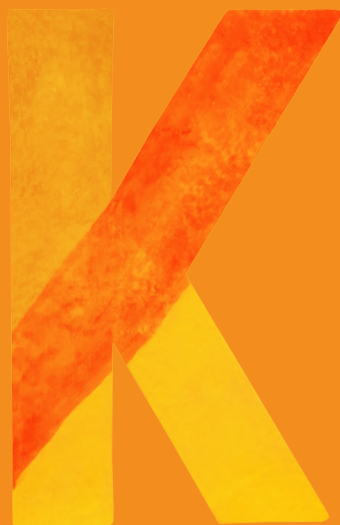




**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Russia**

Старшие Братья Старшие Сестры России



## Annual report



International volunteer mentoring  
program for children in difficult  
life situations





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## Executive Director's message



Dear Friends,

We are happy to share the results of the Year 2015 with you. It has become the year of record-breaking achievements, the year of new friends and partners, new opportunities for the program. We have given support to more than 300 children in complicated situation, we have been developing a new direction of the program - «Mentoring children in families». Mentors for our children are more than just friends - this is a real chance to share burning feelings, worries, grief and joy, it is a role model and an example to follow.

Successful program development has become possible exclusively due to joint efforts - this is fruitful cooperation of all the parties involved: children, volunteers, corporate partners, program co-workers. The children are competent participants of our program. They are not only the Littles, they are invited to take part in program efficiency evaluation and to work out the «Big & Little» pair goals. Our Bigs are program volunteers and we cannot stop admire them. The partner list in 2015 has been expanded, and we are enormously grateful for help in project realization to such companies as Ehrmann, M.Video, Carlson Rezidor. Without them our activity will not be possible.

This year our Executive Board was reinforced by great people: Natalia Kuznetsova and Sergey Nazarov have joined the program. We are extremely grateful to them and we are happy they are with us. Altogether we will succeed in program development aimed at making children's lives brighter and happier.

Best regards,  
Alexandra Telitsyna



## About us



We understand that the most important thing for a child is support given by an adult, his approval and participation in his life. Our volunteers become a pillar for children.

**We cannot change a child's past but we can definitely give a child a chance to build his future**

An individual mentorship program gives children a chance to fulfil potential, to feel confidence, to adapt and participate fully in social life.

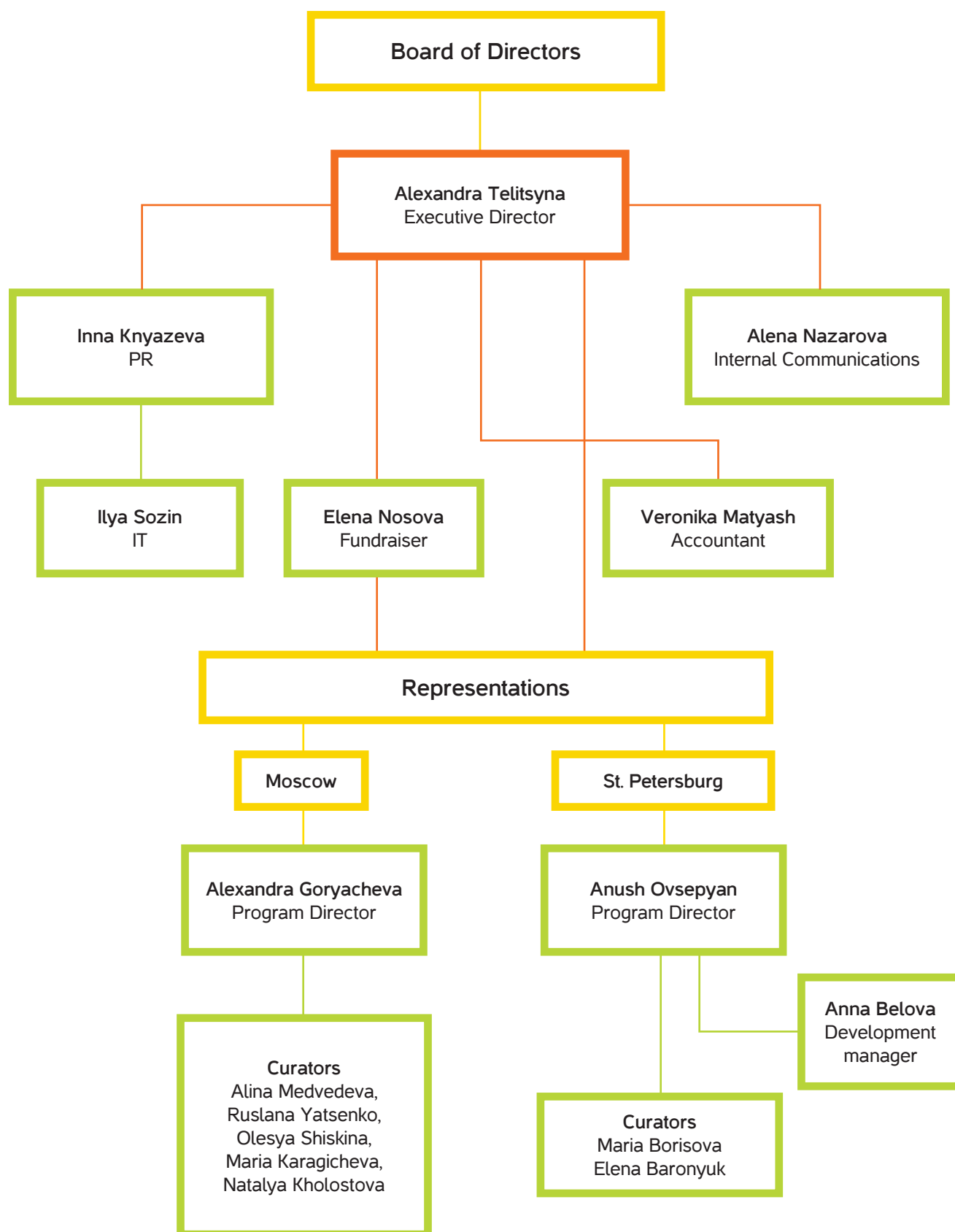


### **We help to:**

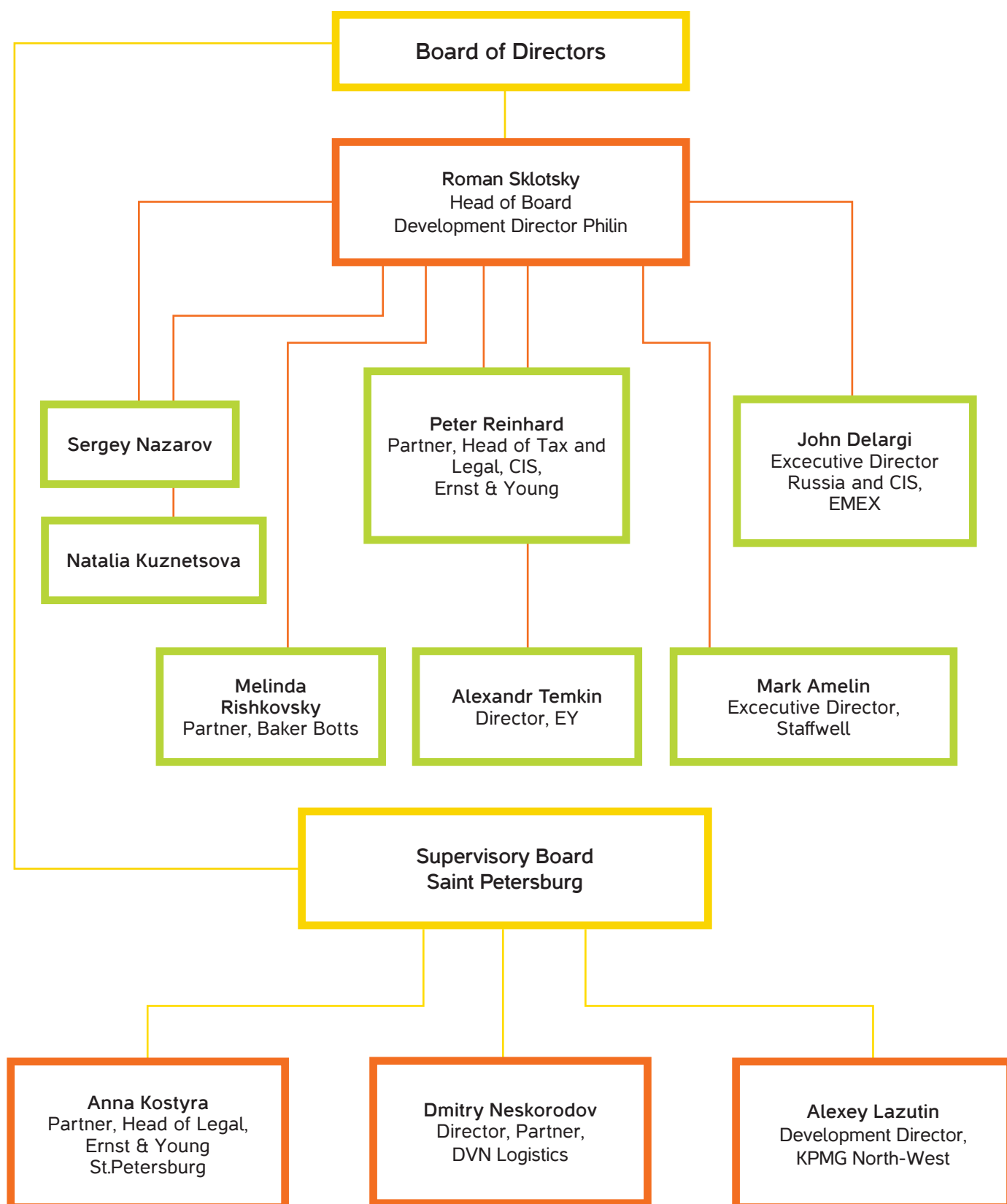
- orphans;
- children in families in need of extra support (for example, in need of communication, with difficulties in learning and/or with behavior deviations);
- orphanage graduates (18-23 years), the “Youngers” of Big Brother Big Sister program, who decided to prolong their participation in the program on reaching 18 years.



## Structure of the organization



## Structure of the organization



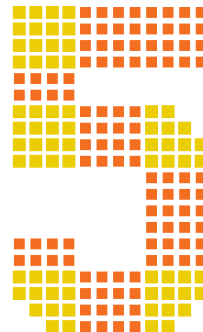
## How it works



Our volunteer comes to visit one specific child at least once a week, which allows him/her to build trust



Each pair “mentor/child” is supported by a professional psychologist who holds supervisory sessions with volunteers and children



Spending time with the volunteer helps the child's socialization



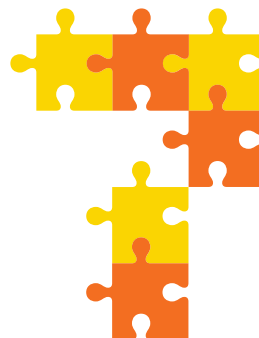
Our volunteers receive mandatory training



Things the volunteer and the child do together help the latter to develop social and life skills



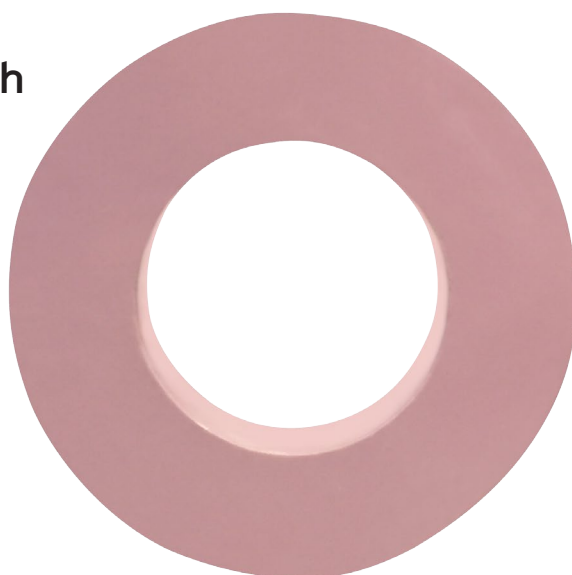
The volunteer becomes the child's older friend, a role model, a source of encouragement, attention and care



The volunteer helps and supports the child in his/her school work



## Working with volunteers



Our volunteer mission is to help children in need of support to find a friend-mentor. The children call them their Big brother or Big sister. We call them volunteers. The pairs are formed. Program tutors help children and adults find common language, give advice and support. Several hours of communication a week help children see an absolutely different life... a real life... Make them stronger and more confident. This friendship works wonders!

A key point in program functioning is that we deal not only with volunteer attraction, but also take care of their studies and supporting during program participation. Big Brother Big Sisters tutors are professional psychologists who support both program members, give advice and recommendations, help build pleasant, strong and long-time friendly relationship







## Volunteer support



### educational training for volunteers at the stage of joining the program

The training is conducted by program members for free, it is oriented at new volunteers just joining the program. Participation in training is an obligatory condition for program joining. This training is dedicated to the topics: child psychology, safety instructions, the ways to spend time with a child. This training help future volunteers get ready to communicate with a child, to collaborate with his parents and the orphanage.

### Supporting trainings for volunteers

For volunteers participating in the program for more than 1 year we conduct a supporting training aimed at burnout prevention.

### Events for children and volunteers



## The history of friendship



### History of Kirill and Nikita

I joined Big Brothers and Big Sisters as a volunteer in 2012 and in the beginning of 2013 after completion of all tests and trainings I have had a younger - Nikita. I should add that I have been approaching this event for a long time - for two or three years. It was not because I have been collecting my thoughts. I have realized that I have accumulated enough background and I am ready to share it exactly with the children, with the definite child to be more precise. However, the majority of non commercial organizations working with orphans practice mass volunteer visits to the groups of children, and I wanted to find the program organizing individual communication of a mentor and a child, as I understood that children in orphanages need more attention and individual communication rather than presents. It took some time find the appropriate program and suddenly in the end of 2012 there was a social reaction to the «Dima Yakovlev law», all volunteer programs became very active in Internet, including Big Brothers Big Sisters. Having read the first page on BBBS site I understood - «that's it!» and filled the application form at once.



The first months of friendship with Nikita were not easy - we have been accustoming to each other. I took him to museums, parks, interactive activities, told a lot of things, and Nikita didn't believe that I was for a long time in his life and that's why he didn't try to get closer, would keep silent, answered shortly. His holiday helped change the situation. I came to see him off to winter camp, and he said that he didn't want to leave and when he was back I would be with him no longer. Neither my conviction nor words that I would not disappear worked and even the fact that I came after holiday did not add confidence in long-term friendship to Nikita. The situation repeated in summer: leaving to the camp he was afraid that our friendship may come to an end, but I





## The history of friendship

Everything is OK now and I am very happy about our relationship and communication. I am inspired that Nikita started to tell more about his life and friends, he has become more easy-going and sensitive. He remembered the date of our first meeting, this is an important date for both of us. We called this date our Pair Birthday and when it turned 3 years he told his groupmates about «our» birthday and invited us for Birthday cake.



met him again in autumn and Nikita had finally understood that I was seriously for a long time with him. For instance, I may call him and say that I will not be able to come on weekend and he asks if am planning to come next weekend.

One more joy - he learns to reason, to understand his needs and to choose what he likes more. For an observer it does not seem to be a real achievement, but if you know how rarely children from orphanages switch on their head, you will understand everything. Nevertheless, sometimes you have to make efforts so that he makes his choice. For example, when I ask where we go - To Gorky Park or to the cinema, he tries to guess the «right» answer but when he sees that it will not work with me, he starts to explain his choice.

In these 3 years I have remarked that Nikita has become older. It is expressed in the fact that he started to believe in himself and his potential. He used to refuse new activities like snowboard or skate, but now he strives for new things. Once we found a small climbing wall and Nikita decided to climb. The first attempt was not lucky - his hands got tired half way and he asked to help him come down. It was only the third time he succeeded and remarked my words that you should always try even if you fail for the first time.

Our friendship for me is a chance to share my knowledge and care and for Nikita this long-time relationship gives the feeling of constancy which he lacks. His teachers and roommates used to change and this relationship with older brother for him is and island of stability which he can rely on and grow up.



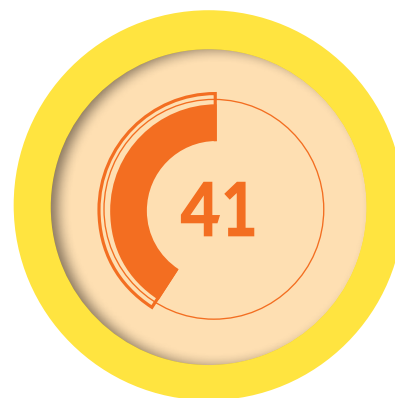


## Assessment of program performance in 2015-2016 academic year

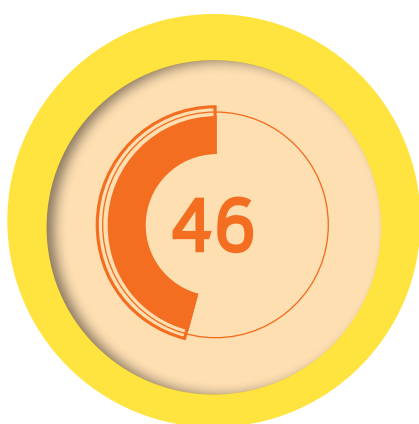
Assessment of program performance is conducted basing on forms, filled by a mentor and mentee at the moment of program participation and within a year of regular communication as well.

The data collected as a result of mentors' survey:

These are indicated in percents (%)



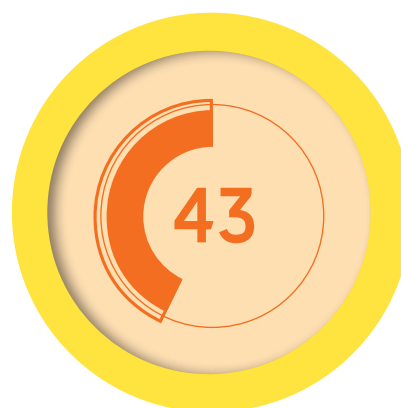
of mentees have improved their school performance  
/// of mentees have improved their hygiene habits and self care skills  
/// of mentees became more self confident



of mentees have broadened their outlook  
/// of mentees have had a wish to study and pursue a profession



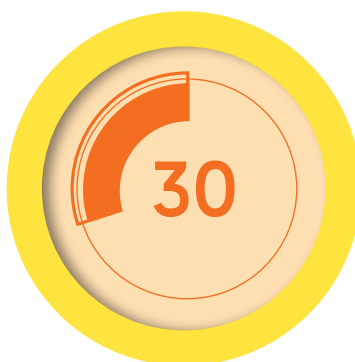
of mentees want to explore something new



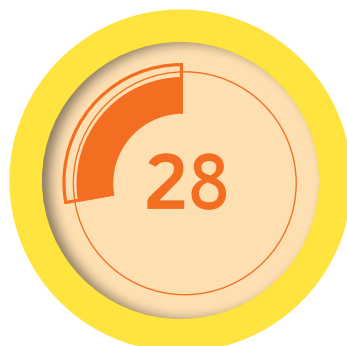
of mentees started to play sports on regular basis  
/// of mentors feel the child's need in them



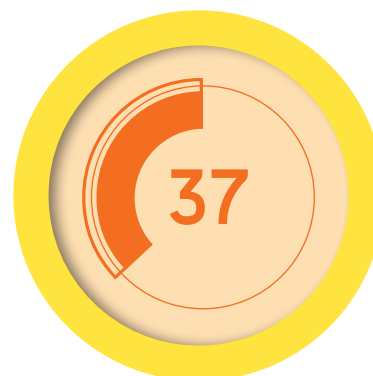
of mentees have improved their communicative skills  
/// of mentees have had a wish to study and pursue a profession  
/// of mentees started to express their feeling more adequately



of mentees have shown better understanding of etiquette rules and public conduct



of mentees became more self consistent  
/// of mentees became more responsible



of mentees have had a constant hobby  
/// of mentees have got a desire to master their interests  
/// of mentors have improved mutual understanding with a child



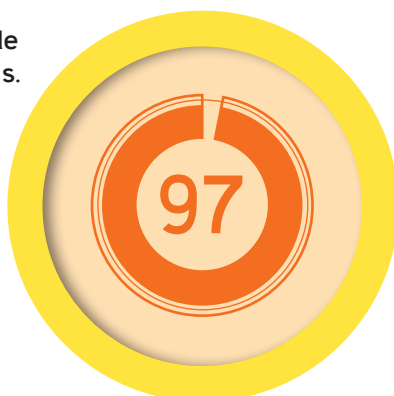
## Assessment of program performance in 2015-2016 academic year

Mentees have evaluated their attitude towards the mentor and the meetings. The data collected as a result of mentees' survey:

These are indicated in percents (%)



of mentees have started to trust their mentors more



of mentees like the way the meetings with their mentor pass

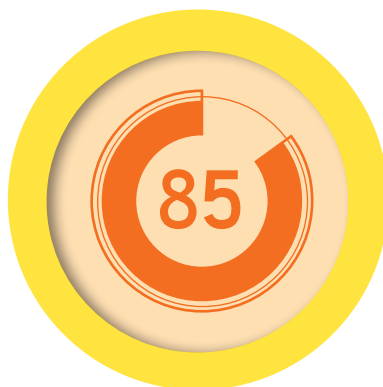
Mentees were asked «Would you recommend to your best friend to take part in the program?»



«Yes»



of mentees feel their mentor's support



of mentees report that they learn a lot of new things during the meetings



«I don't know»



of mentees look forward to meeting their mentor



of mentees consider the meetings to be very important for them



«No»

COMMENTS:

«Because my friend is a grown-up»

«Because I have no friends»

«My friend participates already in the program»

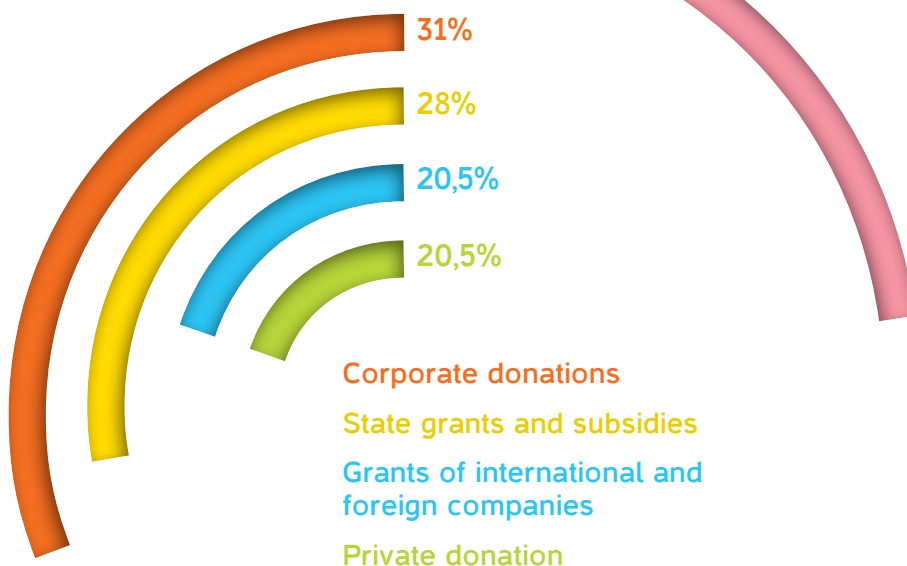
## Finance statement



### Organization income

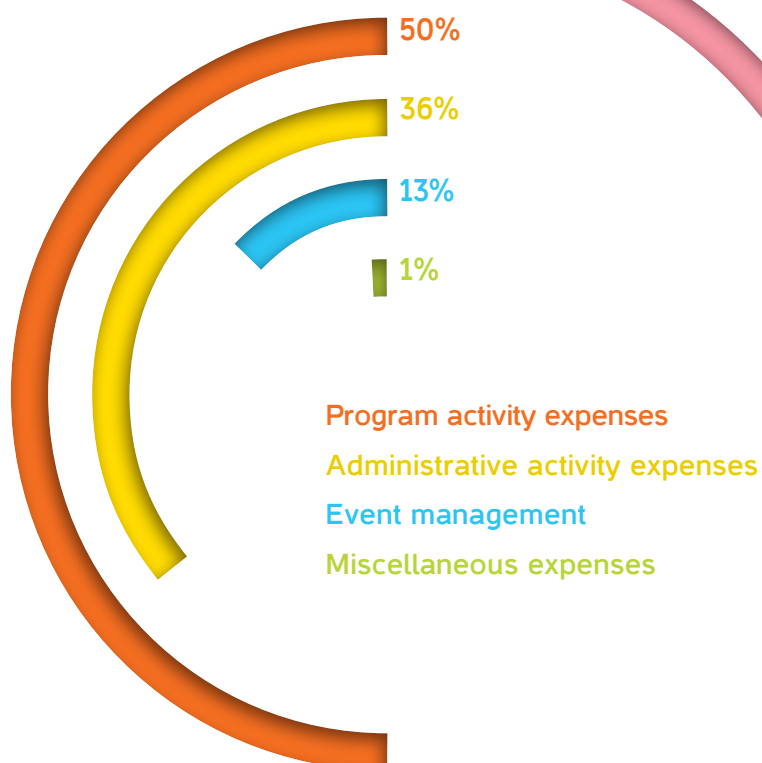
**₽ 23 576 862**

#### Income sources



### Organization expenses

**₽ 18 479 228**



## Events



### Moscow

#### JANUARY

##### » *How to help children love reading*

Our partner - a bookstore «Bamper» - conducted an educational seminar for our Volunteer Mentors where they learnt the ways how to teach a child to like reading and help him learn reading with pleasure.



#### FEBRUARY

##### » *Realife games in Masterslavl*

TMA-Draft agency team has organized an educational event Realife Games for children from Moscow orphanages and their volunteer mentors of the program Big Brothers Big Sisters. The children got to know different jobs, could try different types of activities. Esipova Masha, a program volunteer, has conducted a workshop for Bigs how to spend time with children.



#### FEBRUARY

##### « *How does the work start?*

Employment is one of the most actual questions for our children. For the thematic master class we invited top-level professionals in the employment sphere - Head Hunter platform and a national conference «Human capital development». In the frames of this master class our children had learnt to write resumes, to pass interviews and to present their skills properly.





**FEBRUARY**

≈ **Master class «Computer skills»**

M.Video team conducted a «Computer Skills» master class for program participants. The children had learnt about the programmer's and the web-architect's jobs, and even managed to explore the computer construction.



**APRIL**

≈ **Volunteer support training**

During this training volunteers could learn about effective ways to improve communication with a child, where to find the resource for keeping and developing relationship and besides how to set goals and to give positive feedback.

**APRIL**

≈ **Dress style master class**

Program participants could learn about image, different dress styles and how to work out an image for a child with the help of a professional stylist.



**MARCH**

≈ **Career guidance master class**

Our partner M.Video company organized a practical master class, where the children learnt about the scope of the jobs possible for them in the future: cash keeper, shop assistant, warehouse worker. The children tried themselves in test job interview and managed to talk to different job representatives.







APRIL

≈ **Down under ball.**  
**Australian ball**

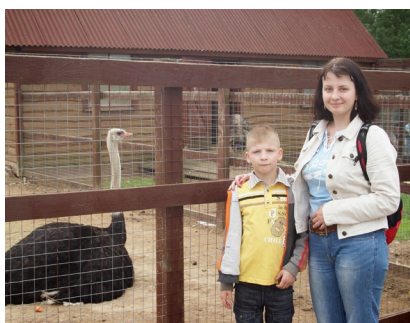
The forth Australian benefit «Down Under Ball - 2015» took place in Moscow on April 28th, 2015 in Radisson Royal Hotel. Down Under Ball was founded by Russian-Australian Business Association in support of volunteer mentorship program Big Brothers Big Sisters. Traditionally the Ball was held in the atmosphere of a real Australian festivity. In support of a volunteer program a benefit lottery and auction took place. Charitable ball collected about 3 million RUR in support of Big Brothers Big Sisters.



APRIL

≈ **Getting to know Yandex**

In terms of the event Big Brothers Big Sisters program participants visited Yandex office and explored the way of business functioning. The employees from different divisions told about their education, their activity in the company and about the structure of the well-known Yandex services.



MAY

» **«Reallife games» in**  
**Conservation park in Moscow**  
**region**

On May 24th 2015 «Reallife games» fest traditionally organized for children by TMA Draft agency took place. The children together with their mentors visited Ostrich farm and Bison Conservation park in Moscow region! Prioksk Terrace Biosphere Park is famous for its special relief - the Ice Age Period present, and for the combination of southern and northern plants, for the lakes with beaver dams, for rare species - Bisons - all of these peculiarities compose natural complex under UNESCO protection.



JUNE

« **Berry Compote festival**

On June 6th Big Brothers Big Sisters celebrated its Birthday having organized Berry Compote festival in Museon park. All the guests had a chance to try the tastiest baking and ice-cream, to take part in different master classes. Besides, the festival gave the guests a chance to experience an incredible activity - scream boarding.





**AUGUST**

≈ ***A concert in the White Square in support of Big Brothers Big Sisters***

On August 14th an open-air concert in support of Big Brothers Big Sisters in the White square took place. Streams of Whiskey and John Delargy musicians gave a concert for the guests.

**SEPTEMBER**

≈ ***Master class. Call center operator***

On September 19th a volunteer team of Client Service and Internet-Sales Direction conducted a master class for younger participants of Big Brothers Big Sisters aimed at career guidance. M.Video employees told about a Contact center operator and about the jobs connected with consulting and solving different questions with a client on the phone.



## THE FAMILY DAY

**AUGUST**

≈ ***The Day of the Family***

On August 29th and 30th a famous hotel chain Carlson Rezidor organized The Day of the Family in support of our program, which took place at the same time in Moscow, in St. Petersburg and in Sochi. In Moscow the festival took place in Radisson Resort, Zavidovo. The money for the children in difficult situations were been collected, and the activity was addressed to all guests willing to become a mentor.



**OCTOBER**

≈ ***Job choice master class***

On October 3rd our pairs visited master class dedicated to job choice and employment with the help of HR company Gi Group. The youngers learnt about the jobs which are potentially available for them in the future, and how to build a career, beginning with the entry-level jobs.





**OCTOBER**

≈ **«Ehrmann» factory excursion**

On October 5th the children from «Vozrozhdenie» center visited Ehrmann factory. Firstly the instructions were given to the guests and next they had a tour around the factory. Some of the children had a chance to «work» with a scanner and even got interested in the education requirements in order to work in this factory after graduation. Afterwards the employees conducted a quiz with questions about the factory and the yoghurts. The most attentive children were awarded with the prizes.

**OCTOBER**

≈ **Fashion day**

On October 28th in Lavka Radostey in Art-Play a Fashion Day took place - a benefit sales, thanks to which we managed to collect money to conduct trainings for future program volunteers.



**OCTOBER**

≈ **Realife Games**

On October 17th in the VDNKh premises there were next Realife Games organized by creative agency TMA Draft volunteers. The Bigs and youngers involved in our program visited Oceanography center «Moskvarium» and the first Russian permanent robot exhibition Robotostancia. The children got a valuable experience, a lot of bright emotions and good mood!



**NOVEMBER**

« **Master class.  
Room cleaning**

On November 29th program members visited Holiday Inn Hotel, where a gorgeous reception was organized and an interesting room-cleaning master class by chambermaids was held.





#### DECEMBER

##### ≈ *Mentor of the year*

On December 3rd in Hilton Leningradskaya hotel an annual award ceremony «Mentor of the Year» took place. The nearest and dearest of our charitable organization Big Brothers Big Sisters met together: volunteers and people making the mentorship program possible.



#### DECEMBER

##### ≈ *Warm-Hearted Market - Dushevny Bazar*

On December 13th in Expocenter the awesome charitable market of the state - a New Year Charitable Market «Dushevny Bazar» took place. Our program took part in this event as well. Unique New year presents, more 200 creative master classes, benefit New Year party, interesting talk-shows by Bayer, the program for the smallest and a real Father Frost from Great Ustug! We managed to collect about 40 000 RUR, all the money will be spent on educational programs for our organization children.

## St.Petersburg

#### FEBRUARY

##### ≈ *Team building for volunteers*

On February 12th a wonderful evening together with our brilliant volunteers in Stroganoff Steak House took place. Under Chief Cook of one of the best city restaurant Maxim Shalavin's directions we cooked a restaurant special dish - beef stroganoff. It was very funny, sincere and tasty!



#### MARCH

##### ≈ *Beauty lessons by Andy Fiord Fashion Agency (AFFA)*

Expecting Women's Day our girls had a professional seminar about the simple and easy ways to keep beauty in accordance with one's age. AFFA specialists conducted a master class dedicated to daily face care and easy & creative everyday hair styles. It was a real beauty festival!

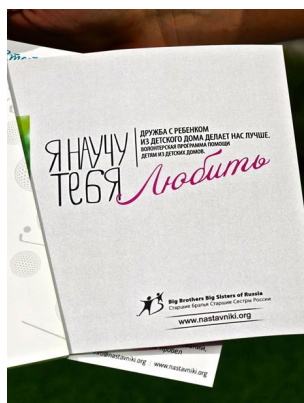




#### APRIL

##### ≈ *Contact zoo visit*

Empathy development via communication with animals is one of the most important way in children social adaptation. On April 25th children from Boarding school № 18 visited a contact zoo « Snow white's Refuge». Wonderful nature, communication with different animals, sandwiches, songs made this day absolutely happy!



#### JULY

##### ≈ *Charitable golf tournament*

On July 19th Big Brother Big Sister friends and partners visited Gorki golf club in St. Petersburg, the first golf-club in North-West region, with 18-hole field, organized a charitable family tournament in honor of mentorship program. Despite the shower the sportsmen played a complete tournament and energized the guests with new ideas, great emotions and health!

#### APRIL

##### ≈ *Charitable evening*

##### ≈ *«I will teach you dreaming?» 2015*

On April 22nd a second charitable evening in support of Big Brothers Big Sisters took place. A special guest was Nikolay Tsiskaridze, the President of Russian Ballet Academy named after A. Vaganova. The lot by Nikolay together with other unique prizes was acted out. Another present from Nikolay Tsiskaridze were wonderful ballet performances by Academy's dancers. Besides all guests have a chance to take part in charitable lottery.



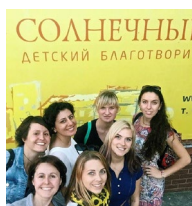
#### AUGUST

##### ≈ *Warm-hearted market «Dushevny Bazar»*

Big Brothers Big Sisters spent the first August weekend in St. Petersburg in the Warm-hearted market «Dushevny Bazar», dedicated to country life. Thanks to the program volunteers in a couple of days the organization stand became a real countryside counter with tastiest jam, delightful fresh bakery, books and a billion charming trifles. And master classes by partners - Parfumers' Guild and Gorki golf club were one of the best!







AUGUST

« *Training for charitable fund «Sunny City»* »

In the end of August Big Brothers Big Sisters shared expert experience in the mentorship sphere for children with Siberian colleagues from Sunny City fund. There were a lot of questions from the side of host colleagues. We are convinced that the knowledge got will have a practical realization in effective mentorship project by the fund Sunny City for children from orphanages in Novosibirsk and the region.



AUGUST

≈ *The Day of the Family by Carlson Rezidor Hotel Group*

A traditional good-hearted festival of a famous hotel chain was held at the same time in Moscow, in St.Petersburg and in Sochi in support of Big Brothers Big Sisters. The main auction event in St. Petersburg were charitable marathons and jogging. Besides several activities for children and family were conducted; football, volleyball, badminton, Frisbee, treats by Carlson Rezidor and lottery were held for guests. By the mentorship program stand an interesting quiz for children with balloons and sweet prizes was held.



NOVEMBER

≈ *New Year Party in Angleterre hotel*

Hotel Angleterre and Big Brothers Big Sisters in St. Petersburg prepared a real festival of creativity for the program children on New Year Eve. On November 15th the hotel invited the children to participate in master classes of New Year decorations making. Professional artists and designers helped children during this master class. After this a special tea table with sweets and delicious starters was served for the children. After tea there was a surprise for children - an interesting quest - hotel adventure, solving different tasks and treasure search. In the beginning of December a gala opening of New Year Party took place in Angleterre. The authors of the decorations were invited. Together with their mentors the children decorated the tree and lit the lights.



DECEMBER

« *Christmas market «Make the dreams real»* »

A charitable market took place on December 6th in Taleon Impreial hotel. This is a joint event with French consulate and Big Brothers Big Sisters in St. Petersburg. There was a wonderful festival with very interesting master classes, presents, possibility to become a part of the show, to get closer and know more about BBBS program!



**We thank our  
volunteers and children  
for assistance in preparing  
the report**





**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Russia**  
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