



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters.**
OF THE SUN COAST

TOGETHER, WE ARE DEFENDERS OF POTENTIAL

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BBBSSUN.ORG

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To Whom this May Concern:

On behalf of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast, I am writing in support and recognition of the community contributions of SunTrust Bank. Big Brothers Big Sisters is a one-to-one mentoring program working to help all youth achieve their full potential. We connect at risk youth with community volunteers that build and support a one-to-one relationship guiding the futures of our most vulnerable youth. Our Agency's area footprint includes ten counties, primarily on the West Coast of Florida.

SunTrust Bank's leadership has been, and continues to be, tremendous mentors of our youth providing encouragement and inspiration to achieve in education and build a solid life plan. Many of our youth do not have the role models that have accomplished high school graduation or an achievable career plan. Our Market President for SunTrust is one of many examples of SunTrust Bank's passionate community citizens for Youth. Fermin "JJ" Miranda has both professionally and personally provided countless hours in mentoring his Little Brother and encouraging others to be involved as well. He has also invested personally in Big Brothers Big Sisters as a leader in the National Hispanic Advisory Council for Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. Additionally, he has also led our Corporate Board building a strong economic future for our business and strategic plan. JJ encourages SunTrust to be involved in our communities and is very responsive to community needs. As modeled by the top leadership of SunTrust, they invest in our communities with time, talent and treasure.

When the Sebring Strong tragedy occurred, many in the community organized to rally around SunTrust employees as a 'give back' support to the families involved in the tragedy. Big Brothers Big Sisters helped organize the event as SunTrust employees are so often the first to help others.

The merger of SunTrust Bank and BB&T will make our communities even stronger. SunTrust has a long history of responding to the needs of our communities and will bring this strength to this merger.

Sincerely,

Joy F. Mahler
President/CEO