



**Big Brothers Big Sisters**  
of Saginaw Bay Area

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CONTACT: SHELLY GREENE  
(989) 755-6558

## **First Gentleman Daniel Granholm Mulhern will give keynote address at 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Auction and Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony**

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saginaw Bay Area today announced that Michigan's First Gentleman, Daniel Granholm Mulhern will give the keynote address at the agency's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Auction and Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony, which takes place Jan. 25 at Horizons Conference Center in Saginaw from 6 to 9 p.m.

Mulhern is the husband of Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm and since her election has been a vocal advocate for mentoring programs in Michigan. Thanks in large part to the efforts of Mulhern and Mentor Michigan, three Big Brothers Big Sisters matches participated in the Mackinac Bridge run on Labor Day. Because of his efforts on behalf of mentoring programs, Mulhern also will be given the agency's first ever "Friend of Mentoring" award.

In a departure from tradition, this year the agency is incorporating its volunteer appreciation activities with the Auction to coincide with Mentoring Month in Michigan.

Following the silent auction at 7:30 p.m., a short program will take place during which the First Gentleman will make his address and help present awards to the agency's 5-, 10-, 20- and 25-year volunteers.

The theme for the Auction is “A Taste of Michigan,” and will feature items donated by Michigan businesses and celebrating the state’s beauty and bounty. Hors d’oeuvres, based on the theme and featuring Michigan agricultural products as well as refreshments are included, and a cash bar will be available.

Tickets to the auction are \$30 each or two for \$50 and can be ordered by contacting Big Brothers Big Sisters at (989) 755-6558. Tickets also can be purchased at the door.

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Big Brothers Big Sisters has been serving Saginaw and Bay counties since 1953. The agency’s mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of youth by providing professionally supported one-to-one mentoring relationships. The agency serves youth ages 5 to 18 from families where one adult figure of the same sex is either not available or is available on a limited basis. Research has shown these youth are “at risk” for certain unhealthy or destructive behaviors ranging from truancy to increased drug usage, alcoholism and violence. Research also consistently demonstrates that one-to-one mentoring helps youth overcome the many challenges they face. For more information about the agency, visit its Web site at [www.sagbaybbbs.org](http://www.sagbaybbbs.org).