

ABOUT US

BBS (Big Brothers and Sisters) is a youth volunteer organization that aims to support the development of juveniles dealing with difficulties by serving as a brotherly or sisterly figure to them. As of 2020, there are approximately 5,000 members across Japan.

Over 70 Years of History

The roots of the BBS go back to the Big Brothers movement, which began in New York in 1904. The BBS movement in Japan was started by university students in Kyoto right after World War II in 1947 to take care of war-damaged orphans who fell into delinquency. We celebrated our 70th anniversary in 2017.

BBS Associations in Japan

Local BBS Associations

Local BBS associations engage in activities according to the local circumstances. Each member belongs to one association organized by local youths. There are over 300 local BBS associations nationwide (about 20% organized only by university students). About 60% of the members are under the age of 30.

Prefectural BBS Associations

Prefectural BBS associations, which are established in each jurisdictional area of the 50 probation offices around the country, are organized by local BBS associations. Prefectural BBS Associations support the local BBS associations' activities.

Regional BBS Associations

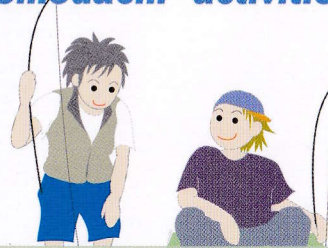
Regional BBS associations, which are established in each jurisdictional area of the eight regional parole boards around the country, offer activity support, training programs and workshops to its members.

The Japan Federation of BBS

The Japan Federation of BBS plays an important role in liaison and coordination among BBS associations throughout Japan. The Federation also provides members with various types of information regarding their services and promotes their activities for further development.



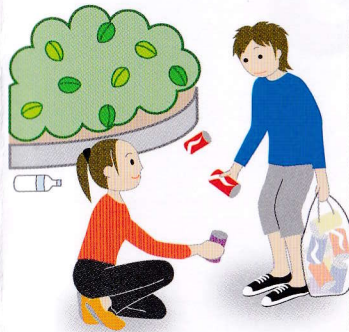
Friendship activities ("Tomodachi" activities)



In this program, a member forms a supportive relationship with a juvenile delinquent who is on probation or parole from the juvenile training school. Each member of the BBS partners up with one juvenile, communicates with them as a supporting partner and provides help to them. Through the activities, they are able to see things from the same perspective as these juveniles and assist them as peers.



Cooperation for social contribution activities



BBS members cooperate with probation officers and participate in social contribution activities. Through various activities such as cleaning public spaces, members can share the joy of contributing to society in a positive way for change with juveniles.



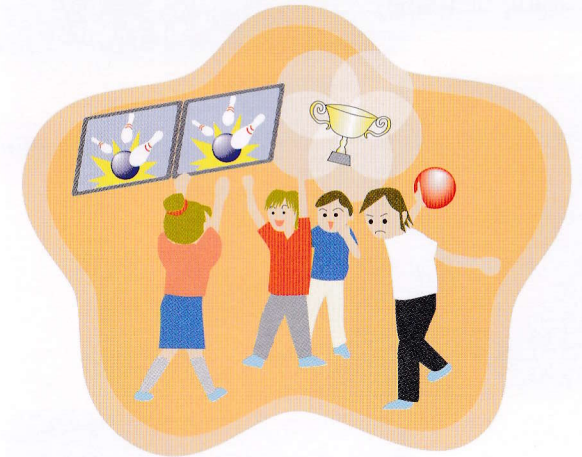
Delinquency prevention activities

BBS members carry out various public relations activities and events in the community and contribute to the realization of a bright society without crime and delinquency.

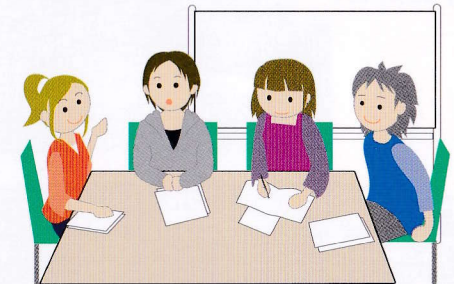


Group activities /Study support

Group activities encompass sports and recreation which enhance the ability of juveniles to reintegrate into society. BBS members also offer study support to them. These activities give them opportunities to have new experiences and to open up to others.



Training activities



To enhance activities, BBS members organize various types of training and meetings by themselves. These training events and meetings contribute to the improvement of their knowledge, skills and awareness of their activities.