

For Immediate Release



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Monmouth & Middlesex Counties

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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FATHER'S DAY – A CELEBRATION FOR SOME, NOT ALL

ASBURY PARK NJ (June 12, 2017) – For most males, Father's Day is joyous day to celebrate our dads and spend time with our children as they celebrate us. We learned from our own fathers and pass this knowledge on to our children. Dads offer advice, teach their sons to play catch, how to fish, and to be a productive member of the community.

Unfortunately, many boys have only seen a father-son relationship on TV. Their reality is growing up fatherless. Too many boys in our community have fathers that don't play an active role in their lives - some are by choice, others are incarcerated, have succumbed to addictions, or didn't break the cycle in which they were brought up. These fatherless children are more likely to live in poverty, have a host of other risk factors to prevent healthy development, and not surprisingly, 71% of high school dropouts are fatherless.

I don't place blame and am not judgmental of the causes or reasons for fatherlessness nor am I critical of children being raised by a single mother. I simply wish all boys had a loving, supportive father in their lives every day.

Agencies like Big Brothers Big Sisters cannot change the circumstances in which a child lives, but we can do something to strengthen their support system.

We are always in need of male volunteers to become Big Brothers and making a difference in a child's life is not as hard as you may think. Can you teach a boy to fish who has never held a fishing pole? Play catch and talk about life? Attend their sporting event? Work on fixing a bike together, go to the movies, or just help with homework?

This Father's Day, I ask that you consider volunteering in some way to help the boys in our community who don't have a father or other positive male role model. We can't change their circumstances but together we can give them the tools to navigate life's challenges.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Monmouth & Middlesex Counties started mentoring local children in 1976. We are proud of our long history but we still need the support of the community. We are a volunteer and donor-driven organization and rely on the support of individuals, businesses, and foundations to enable us to continue changing lives for the better, forever.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Salcedo".

William Salcedo