

BIG PICTURE

Latest news from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Monmouth & Middlesex Counties



July 2017

A Message from Executive Director William Salcedo

Dear Friends,

I recently had the pleasure of attending the 2017 Big Brothers Big Sisters of America conference. It was great spending time with the staff of other BBBS agencies and the positive energy was motivating. It's easy to get caught up in the day-to-day tasks necessary to provide our important services. The conference was a great opportunity to step back and reflect on our national movement and its impact.

I was inspired by the difference our mentors help make in their Littles' lives, homes, schools, and communities. Over 250 agencies across the country gathered to share best practices and hear the countless success stories of youth achieving success in life.

In the past ten years, over 2 million Littles have been served through Big Brothers Big Sisters but the need for mentoring is greater today than ever before. Our agency's need for volunteers is also greater than ever, especially male and Spanish speaking mentors. To help agencies meet the demand, BBBS of America shared a 5-year strategic plan to provide next generation technology, marketing, and additional resources to help us connect more children with positive role models.

I would also like to congratulate our Director of Development, Marybeth Bull, for receiving the Margaret Slack National Award. The highly competitive award is presented to a Big Brothers Big Sisters staff person who has demonstrated an outstanding level of professionalism and quality of service. I'm very proud to have a dynamic and talented team that provides quality programs to children in our local community.

Sincerely,

William Salcedo
Executive Director



Marybeth receiving her award at the National Conference alongside BBBS of America's Board Chair Rudy Baldoni and President & CEO, Pam Iorio

Look who has a Big Brother!



Big Brother Casey with his Little Brother Matthew

Last July Matthew was the featured "Waiting Little" in our newsletter. We are pleased to say Matthew was matched 2 months later to his Big Brother Casey. Last month Casey attended Matthew's 5th grade graduation ceremony which was a great surprise to Matthew. Matthew's favorite activity to do with Casey is going bowling. They look forward to many more fun times together!

Top 5 Qualities Littles Use to Describe Their Bigs

1. Caring
2. Funny
3. Smart
4. Nice
5. Always there

Be a BIG.

No special skills required

www.bbbsmmc.org

Help Littles Start The School Year Prepared

Our Back to School Events are fast approaching and we need your help! Please help our Littles start the school year off right by donating new backpacks and school supplies.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO OUR JULY MATCHES

- Big Sisters Meggan & Little Sister Ashlie 6 Years
- Big Sister Ashley & Little Sister Skylar 6 Years
- Big Sister Sam & Little Sister Alana 5 Years
- Big Brother Chris & Little Brother Logan 3 Years
- Big Brother Steven & Little Brother Izaiah 3 Years
- Big Brother David & Little Brother Dominic 2 Years
- Big Sister Kim & Little Sister Mariah 1 Year
- Big Brother Jeff & Little Brother Meukow 1 Year
- Big Brother Christopher & Little Brother Tyler 1 Year

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Monmouth & Middlesex Counties

305 Bond Street, 2nd Floor | Asbury Park, NJ 07712 | 732.544.2224 | info@bbbsmmc.org | www.bbbsmmc.org

Inspire • Believe • Achieve

Littles Learn to Cook!

Biggs and Littles recently visited **Devon's Kitchen** to learn how to cook a meal to feed 24 people! Each match had a different role in the kitchen to help make roasted chicken, mashed potatoes, pesto pasta, salad and of course desserts! At the end, they all sat down and shared a beautiful meal that they made together. Special thanks to Devon and her two daughters for the amazing opportunity, and **Ray's Café** for providing the perfect kitchen! The highlights of the meal were decidedly the Strawberry Rhubarb Crisp that Michael and



Our amazing chef Devon with Big Brother Mark & Little Brother Bryan



Big Brother Michael & Little Brother Robert working hard in the kitchen

Robert made, as well as the Pesto Pasta that all of the Littles helped make! Devon and her daughters were amazing and worked really hard to ensure that all of the kids were engaged in preparing the meal. Everybody at the event had a really great time and are looking forward to more events like it in the future.

Hatfield Scholarship Graduates

Congratulations to former Littles Emmanuel and Karla who are recent Brookdale Community College graduates! Both students were recipients of the Hatfield Family Fund Scholarship that enabled them to get their Associate Degree at no cost through the generosity of the Hatfield family. Emmanuel will be continuing his education at Montclair University this fall and Karla is deciding on the direction she will take next. We are so proud and wish them luck as they continue their educational journey!



Our proud graduates Emmanuel & Karla

A Little Life is Waiting for a Big Change

Jah'Mir is an energetic and outgoing boy who will enter 3rd grade this September. He plays on the township football team and has an interest in cars and airplanes. He is excited about being matched with a Big Brother who is sporty and likes basketball and football.

Find out how to BECOME A BIG at www.bbbsmmc.org

Great Friends



Little Sister Ella with her Big Sister Kim enjoying some "retail therapy" together!

Big Sister Kim and Little Sister Ella have been matched for 4 years. It was the summer before Ella's freshman year of high school when they first met and now it seems they've known each other forever. They each describe the other as being like family. In a recent conversation with Ella she expressed gratitude for her Big Sister Kim stating, "She's like a second parent to me. I can talk to her about anything and she doesn't judge me." Ella attended Kim's baby shower last summer and when Kim held her daughter's first birthday party this month Ella was there to help with the festivities. Kim is proud of Ella's interest in a career in the nursing profession and will be there to help Ella through the process of applying for colleges this year. Recently they enjoyed time at the mall and went to see the new Spiderman movie.

BEACH
Volleyball
Tournament

Join Us
at Main Street Beach
in Manasquan, NJ
Sunday, September 17, 2017

19TH ANNUAL GALA
REACH
for the stars

Join Us
at Buona Sera Palazzo
in Ocean, NJ
Friday, October 20, 2017

OUR MISSION PARTNERS

Mission Maker
THE Morris & Clara Weshnak
Family Foundation

HALL
CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.

Hackensack
Meridian Health
Jersey Shore University
Medical Center

Mentor Makers

Provident BANK
Commitment you can count on.™

Super
Foodtown
CIRCUS
fresh foods