

BIG PICTURE

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



September 2017

A Message from Executive Director William Salcedo

Dear Friends,

Every year I have the pleasure of witnessing our Littles' excitement at the Back to School Parties and it's great to be able to equip them for school by providing backpacks and supplies. The beginning of the school year can be a stressful time for children and we know that having the right tools will help them feel confident and ready to take on new challenges.

Much like helping the kids in our programs prepare for the school year, our 1-to-1 mentoring helps prepare them for a successful life. The Annual Gala is our agency's biggest fundraiser of the year and is critical for promoting and funding our mentoring efforts. I hope that you will consider supporting the children in our programs through this wonderful event.

Thank you and best wishes for a successful school year ahead!

William Salcedo
Executive Director

Mark & Bryan – A Great Match!



Bryan and Mark at a recent BBBSMMC Event at Colonial Airstream RV Center

Bryan was almost 9 years old when he was first introduced to his Big Brother Mark. Little did Bryan know his Big Brother is really just a big kid. Their first outing was spent at a local arcade and their second outing was more of the same at Fun Time America. It wasn't long before Bryan began to consider Mark his best friend. Not much has changed except for Bryan's height and maturity. He just entered his freshman year of high school and when asked if he feels he's outgrown

being a Little Brother to Mark, Bryan quickly replied, no. *"We have a lot in common and have the same attitude toward a lot of things. We share the same opinions and really get along,"* he said. When asked what he likes about hanging out with Mark Bryan said, *"Everything, he's definitely changed my life. Before I knew him I had trouble with my anger and had gotten into a lot of fights."*

Bryan's mother Lais is equally happy with her son's Big Brother. *"He's amazing. I see a positive impact on Bryan since he's been involved. When we started this program Bryan was an angry child who resented his dad for leaving. I'm not going to say everything is because of Mark but Mark has made a huge impact on Bryan,"* she said.

Be a Shining Star in a Child's Life



From the Left: Barry Weshnak, BBBSMMC Board President; Jessica Scaduto, Food Circus Marketing Manager; Michael Salerno, BBBSMMC Board Member; and Gala Honoree Phil Scaduto at the BBBS Food & Wine Event.

Join us for our Annual Gala on October 20th and "Reach for the Stars" as we celebrate 41 years of changing children's lives through 1-to-1 mentoring!

Our Corporate Honoree is Phil Scaduto, long-time supporter of BBBSMMC, Vice President and Co-Owner of Food Circus Super Markets, Inc. and Managing Director for Pet Supplies Plus. We look forward to acknowledging Phil's commitment to our agency and the community with his family, friends, and associates there to support him.

Enjoy a cocktail reception and silent auction followed by dinner, live music by Remember Jones, dancing, and a night to remember!

Can't attend? Buy a chance for our 50/50 cash raffle!! Just \$20 per ticket and 50% of ticket sales will be awarded in 10 cash prizes. You do not need to be present to win!

For more information call 732.544.2224.

Be a BIG.
No special skills required
www.bbbsmmc.org

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Monmouth & Middlesex Counties

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Inspire • Believe • Achieve

BBBSMMC Holds 17th Annual Back to School Parties!

BBBSMMC partnered with the Heldrich Hotel and the Monmouth Mall again this year to hold two Back to School Parties for Littles in our programs. There were 125 attendees including Bigs, Littles, children waiting for a mentor, and parents/guardians. Basha and other members from the group *Zeybrah* brought in African drums to teach our Littles songs, dances and phrases from Senegal and other parts of Africa!



Littles at the Monmouth County Back to School Party

We also teamed with up with Buffalo Wild Wings to provide our matches with some healthy options for dinner as well as Barnes & Noble who volunteered at our Monmouth Mall party and donated new books for all the Littles!

Each child received a backpack filled with school supplies, a new book and gift cards to prepare them for the upcoming school year. Every year the community steps up to donate school supplies and support these events that mean so much to the kids we serve. Thanks to the many volunteers and contributors!

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| AT&T Pioneers | Surf Taco |
| Barnes & Noble – Monmouth Mall | TDK-Lambda Americas, Inc. |
| Buffalo Wild Wings – Monmouth Mall | The Church of the Nativity |
| Dean’s Natural Food Market | The Heldrich Hotel |
| Illiano’s Italian Restaurant | The Monmouth Mall |
| Starbucks | UBS Financial Services – Red Bank |
| Sun Cycle | and many other individuals who contributed! |

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO OUR SEPTEMBER MATCHES

- Big Sister Patricia & Little Sister Jaylen 6 Years
- Big Sister Jennifer & Little Sister Neveah 4 Years
- Big Sister Julie & Little Sister Sa’Asia 4 Years
- Big Sister Lauren & Little Sister Nalah 3 Years
- Big Brother Nick & Little Brother Aiden 2 Years
- Big Sister Jeanne & Little Sister Jonajah 2 Years
- Big Sister Christine & Little Sister Hailey 2 Years
- Big Sister Jane & Little Sister Khadeija 1 Year
- Big Sister Leelabati & Little Sister Madison 1 Year
- Big Sister Jenica & Little Sister Megan 1 Year
- Big Brother Casey & Little Brother Matthew 1 Year

A Little Life is Waiting for a Big Change

Kenny is a 9 year old with many different interests. He has recently become an orange belt in Tae Kwon Do and started an animation class. He is an avid gamer and loves to watch funny YouTube videos. With the fall approaching he is looking for a Big Brother to take him pumpkin picking, hiking, and bowling. He is excited to try new experiences and adventures.

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

Buy a Chance...in Advance! 50/50 CASH RAFFLE

BENEFITING

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF MONMOUTH & MIDDLESEX COUNTIES

- \$20 per ticket
- 50% of ticket sales will be awarded in 10 cash prizes*
- Drawing will take place Friday, October 20th at the 19th Annual Gala
- You do not need to be present to win!

*	1 st Prize:	25%
	2 nd Prize:	10%
	3 rd Prize:	5%
	4 th Prize:	3%
	5 th Prize:	2%
	6 th -10 th Prizes:	1%

To Buy a Chance in Advance email info@bbbsmmc.org or call 732.544.2224

OUR MISSION PARTNERS

Mission Maker
THE Morris & Clara Weshnak Family Foundation

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