

Big Brothers Big Sisters Board Report November 2020

Participants:

- # of School Based Matches - 12 thus far. This will change in the next month.
- # of Community Based Matches - 50. Waiting List - 138
- # of Work Place Mentoring Matches - 3 thus far. This will change in the next month.

Program Highlights:

- Our community based program continues to do well. We are slowly but gradually adding new matches, we are taking in more bigs (mostly female) and we are receiving more inquiries on how to become involved.
- School based and site based programs in schools and at BNY Mellon continue to be a challenge. Remote mentoring is not drawing a lot of interest for bigs or littles. CNS (bigs and littles) politely declined to participate. Many of the littles do not have computers at home and some do not have phones (or very limited access). Required paperwork that we send out or hand deliver is not making it back to us. Many parents are politely asking to pause until we can do in-person mentoring again in the schools. However, we are now opening a handful of matches at each school and are in experimentation mode with introducing modes of communication and activities between the bigs and littles.
- The 1st edition of our very first newsletter will be published in the next week or two. Thanks to Mary, an SU Public Policy major, for setting up and putting the finishing touches on this publication.

Upcoming Events:

- Chrome Book and School Supply Distribution on Saturday Dec. 5th at 10:00 am
- Advisory Council Mtg. (remote) on Wednesday Dec. 9th at 5:30 pm.
- Holiday Party (drive thru) on Saturday Dec. 12th at 11:00 am

Success Story:

We recently signed up a new "big" into our program. We matched him (Shaun) with a "little" who had 2 bigs in the last 2 years (neither lasted very long). A committed big this time around was critical.

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Shaun works at Wegman's as a pharmacist. So far, he has proven himself to be a great addition to BBBS.

For Thanksgiving, Shaun and his girlfriend supplied turkeys and other items to feed 5 of our program families.

Wegman's has a program in which you can select a child (and family) from the community in which an employee feels may not have all the great things that others have during the holidays. This can come in the form of gifts and/or food. So Shaun has arranged for his little and family to be a recipient in this program. The timing is perfect seeing that the little just became a big brother himself (and baby sitter) within the family.

The little has been having a few academic issues as of late, especially in the way of language arts. Shaun is now working closely with the little on his reading and clear and evident progress has been made in a very short time.

It's safe to say that a handful of our BBBS families had a happier Thanksgiving than they expected and that a little of ours is in good hands going forward....thanks to Shaun.