

Big Brothers Big Sisters Board Report March 2022

Participants:

- # of School Based Matches - 10 - but will have more 30 soon
- # of Community Based Matches - 50. Waiting List - 58 (recently updated)
- # of Work Place Mentoring Matches - 0 (COVID pause)

Program Highlights:

- Our on-line school-based project (C.A.S.E. – Collaborative Academic and Social Enrichment) has over 10 participants and we are picking up more students each week.
- We continue to get more female volunteers than male. We need more female littles to match them up with. We have been visiting several schools to recruit more girls. We have several meetings set up with notable leaders in the community to help us recruit male bigs.
- Plans for a fishing event on May 22nd and a 2nd annual giant kickball game on June 11th are in place. Dick's Sporting Goods is donating \$2500 to help pay for fishing rods, reels and tackle boxes that will be given to all bigs and littles at the event (theirs to keep).
- We have been receiving a donation of tickets for Syracuse Crunch games on a continuing basis. Our big/littles can use them for any of the games.
- We held our 1st ever Spring Fling on April 2nd at the Hamilton St. Boys & Girls Club. Over 50 bigs and littles joined in on the fun that included STEM projects, arts'n crafts, face painting, dodgeball, can jam, photographs, capture the flag and lunch. All littles took home a Spring Basket that included snacks and gift cards.

Upcoming Events:

- Advisory Council Mtg. Monday April 11th at 5:30. In person/Zoom

Success Story:

Approximately 3.5 years ago, a Syracuse Crunch player, Daniel Walcott, became a big in our program. Since then, Daniel and his little have been getting together on a regular basis enjoying a wide range of activities. Even when Daniel was called up to Tampa Bay and when he was away during the summer (Montreal is home), he stayed in touch with his little.

A week ago, Ch 9 sports did a story on Daniel and his little. They showed them skating around the War Memorial ice and passing the puck back and forth. During this segment, the little explained that he seldom sees his father and how Daniel has filled that huge void in his life. The little went on to say



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how much he enjoys spending time with Daniel. A very heart-warming story that totally underscores the need for mentoring and how critical the Big Brothers Big Sisters program is in our community.

Below is the link to this story.

<https://www.localsyr.com/sports/local-sports/daniel-walcott-the-ultimate-team-player/>