

## **Big Brothers Big Sisters Board Report February 2025**

### **Participants:**

- # of School Based Matches in Central Sq. - 25
- # of Community Based Matches - 47 (2 more to be opened within a week)

### **Program Highlights:**

- Movie Night was a big hit. Over 40 people attended. Moana 2 and snacks/refreshments sent everyone home with a smile.
- The previously mentioned collaboration between a group of Syracuse University students (volunteers) and our BBBS program has taken a step forward. This group will provide support for our program in a variety of ways, including assisting at special events, however, their main focus will be a new 2:1 activity in which a big/little will visit campus and will meet an SU student who has some expertise in a chosen area (see below). The big and little will engage in a learning tour/activity...led by the SU student...with access to resources and facilities. Tours would be chosen from a list of topics ranging from photography to arts'n crafts to law to tv journalism to gaming...and many more.
- Sara Faucher, our Program Assistant since 2002, has left the program and has been replaced by Phin Penzo, who previously worked for the Head Start program here at Sumner. We thank Sara for her years of service and commitment to the program. We wish her the very best.
- We welcome Le'Nard Chisholm as our newest addition to our Advisory Council roster.
- Our annual Golf Scramble fund raiser will take place on Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, at Foxfire Golf course in Baldwinsville. We are hoping to fill each hole with a foursome....and we are looking for sponsors.

### **Upcoming Events:**

Saturday March 8<sup>th</sup>...Basketball Fun Day...at LeMoyne College (with LeMoyne's Womens' B'ball Team)  
Monday March 10<sup>th</sup>...Advisory Council Mtg....5:30...zoom

### **Success Story:**

Even though the LeMoyne College Womens' Basketball Team had a 1st round Northeast Conference Tournament game scheduled at St. Francis Pa. on Monday March 10th, the Lady Dolphins still found the time to host our BBBS program for a day of learning, fun, prizes and snacks over the weekend.

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Over 25 of our bigs and littles gathered at Ted Grant Court on the LeMoyne campus on Saturday afternoon. Head Coach Nick Dipillo, along with Assistant Coaches Casey Filiault, Katie Kolinski and Mya Jackson, put all of our people through a series of fundamental drills and low level competitive games for over an hour. Demonstrations on the proper form when taking a jump shot, how to gain more control of the ball when dribbling and how to set up teammates for a timely pass were just a few of the pointers given. Awesome prizes were given away and team photos with autographs were handed out. The day was capped off by a hearty lunch provided by the team. Our bigs and littles were able to sit with the players at this time and carry on conversations about how the team has been doing, the hard work that is put in each day and what college life is like at LeMoyne. All valuable lessons.

Coach Dipillo, his staff and players could not have been more welcoming and excited to work with us on this day. From the moment we were warmly greeted to the moment the day ended, it was easy to tell that this Dolphin squad had as much fun as our BBBS people did. We received their full attention during the entire time and it was certainly appreciated on our part.

Also, we are thrilled to announce that Nick and the Lady Dolphins program have enthusiastically agreed to collaborate on two to three events each year going forward.

LeMoyne College Womens' Basketball and Peace Inc Big Brothers Big Sisters...a great MATCH!