

Big Brothers Big Sisters Board Report February 2025

Participants:

- # of School Based Matches in Central Sq. - 24
- # of Community Based Matches - 46 (1 more to be opened within a week...in 2025 10 matches have been opened, 9 have been closed)

Program Highlights:

- Over 35 bigs and littles gathered at Ted Grant Court on the campus of LeMoyne College for an afternoon of basketball instruction, fundamentals, prizes and contests all orchestrated by the LeMoyne Women's Basketball team. The entire team and staff treated our bigs and littles as "special" guests, making us all feel very welcome. The day was capped off by a hot lunch and snacks.
- The previously mentioned collaboration between a group of Syracuse University students (volunteers) and our BBBS program is now in full operation mode. We've had over 10 bigs/littles enjoy a day on the SU campus being guided and instructed by SU students.
- Phin Penzo, who previously worked for the Head Start program here at Sumner, is not wasting any time proving his worth as our new Program Ass't. Phin is a legitimate "go getter" who is always seeking more to do. His technology skills are also a welcomed addition to the program.
- Our annual trip to RIT for their STEM event is slated for April 26th. We already have a full bus load going.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday April 26th ...Field trip...STEM event at RIT

Saturday May 10th ...Canal Day...12:00 noon...at Erie Canal Park in Camillus

Monday May 12th ...Advisory Council Mtg...5:30...Coppertop on Milton Ave.

Success Story:

Our new collaboration with Syracuse University students, called Littles to Leaders, targets BBBSA's and local funding source's desire to have our bigs increase career awareness with their littles. This project does so by offering the bigs/littles choices from a long list of tours/activities that take place on the SU campus and are guided by students who have a certain level of knowledge and expertise in

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the subject area that is chosen by the big/little. The tours/activities include narration, visits to facilities, interaction with faculty and staff, interactive presentations and instruction. For example, if the big/little wants to explore the world of law, they might choose...from 16 options...

Law and Policy: Undergraduate students studying law and policy take the Big/Little on a tour of the Syracuse Law School library and mock trial hall. The interactive activity has the Big/Little participate in a mock-trial/case study simulation, where the Little can act as any member in a “crime-solving” simulation, complete with clues, judge, and jury. This service is designed to encourage the Little to take interest in legal proceedings and encouraging them to consider pursuing law in higher education.

Or

Behind the Camera at CitrusTV: Spend a day behind the scenes at Syracuse University’s top-ranked film facilities. Witness student newscasting and the innerworkings of media. Would include an opportunity to sit in front of the camera and lunch at Food.com. For littles interested in broadcasting, TV production, and news/media reporting.

Or

Introduction to Photography: Spend a day wandering Syracuse University’s campus taking pictures with a high-quality camera under the instruction of our student. Learn the basics of lighting, framing, and other photography terminology. For littles interested in a career of photography, film, or directing.

Bigs and littles are able to sign up for 2 different tours (on 2 different days). We’ve already had 10 matches take advantage of this great opportunity and we are receiving very positive feedback from all parties involved.