



Big Brothers Big Sisters

Big News

April 06, 2010

Message from the Board

Why I Became Involved

I would like to share my personal story of how I came to be involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters. Twelve years ago, I came to New Hampshire to start a new chapter in my career. My two partners, Rick Marquis and Rick Wolstencroft, and I purchased Blake's Creamery. Blake's, a neighborhood restaurant and ice cream manufacturer, has roots in Manchester dating to 1900. Sadly, one of my partners, Rick Marquis was diagnosed with brain cancer two years after we purchased the business and passed away shortly thereafter. Not only was this a professional loss but a personal one as well.

About a month later, I went to a Big Brothers Big Sisters Annual Breakfast. I was so moved by the message in that one hour that I knew how we at Blake's would continue to honor our friend, Rick. We became a Match Maker and donated funds in his memory. Rick became my business partner but he was truly a mentor to me in my career at H.P. Hood. He encouraged his people and made sure that you reached your potential. What made him special was that he was there for his family and coworkers. He listened. We all remember a mentor or person that has made a difference in our lives. That is why this organization works. Matching one Little with one Big can be and often is a turning point in a child's life. It is in the simple moments and in the one on one time that the best memories are made. It is often just being there, like Rick, and listening.

I became a board member about a year ago to continue my support. Every dollar raised and every match made has proven to make a difference in a child's life. There is nothing more rewarding than seeing a child develop and helping them face the challenges in their lives.

Looking out my window on this rainy day, it is hard to believe that spring is here. But it is!!! So think about the kids, how you can help and make a difference. Nothing says spring or can add a smile to a face like an ice cream cone. So Bigs bring your Little to Blake's and have an ice cream on us. Let's not forget it is the little things that make a difference!

Ann Mirageas
Board of Directors

Highlights:

Message from the Director

Special Thanks

April Vacation Fun

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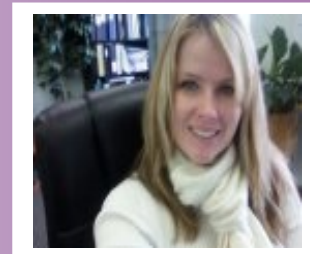
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A Message from the Executive Director



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Manchester needs YOU.

Big Brothers Big Sisters receives 44% of our funding from private donations. Support from individuals like you is vital to provide mentors for children in your community.

And we know they need them. It isn't easy being a kid these days. In these complex and confusing times, children need a caring adult to be a mentor and a friend — someone they can talk to, have fun with, and learn from.

Research shows that our mentoring works. Kids with a Big Brother or Big Sister show real differences in their personal and academic lives.

They are:

- More confident in their schoolwork performance
- Able to get along better with their families
- 52% less likely to skip school.
- 92.2% of every dollar you give goes directly to making and supporting matches. The remainder covers overall program administration.

Charity Navigator, the country's premier independent charity evaluator, has awarded Big Brothers Big Sisters of America a 4-star "exceptional" rating for outstanding fiscal management for the fifth consecutive year.

Donating will help to:

- Help recruit new Big Brothers and Big Sisters
- Cover the costs of background checks and insurance, while ensuring trained professionals match children to caring and responsible Bigs
- Offer one-on-one, ongoing supervision and support for every match
- Provide cultural and social activities to enrich the opportunities for children
- Your donation goes to your community. When you donate online to Big Brothers Big Sisters, you directly support children in your community.

No matter how much you give, donating will improve the lives of young people in your community. Your donation will help them meet the challenges of growing up into happy, confident young adults.

To donate today, please click [HERE!](#)

With Warm Respect,

Jocelyn Perez
Executive Director





Bowl For Kids' Sake: Not about the Bowling ALL about the Kids

Bowl for Kids' Sake (BFKS) is the largest community-wide fundraiser for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Manchester. It is a campaign to raise funds and awareness in support of matching children to volunteers through the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. The BFKS campaign is comprised of a three bowling events scheduled in the month of April, bringing individuals and organizations together to have fun while also securing needed pledges of financial support.

This is my eleventh year as a Big Brother and it has been so inspirational to me that I have set some very hefty goals for myself this year - to raise \$3,000 so the Big Brothers Big Sisters program can support three new children into our program. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Manchester served hundreds of children in 2009. However, with additional children referred to the program annually, there are more than 70 children still on the waiting list. For every \$1,000 raised, another youth can be served. Personally, I can't think of a better investment than the future of our kids!

In addition to the three bowling events in April, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Manchester has once again expanded its annual Bowl for Kids' Sake fundraiser to include *Wii* bowling. With today's ever changing economy Big Brothers Big Sisters is finding more ways to be innovative and creative with its fundraising efforts. Our *Wii* bowling campaign is designed to reach out beyond the Manchester city limits to get all the cities and towns our agency serves involved in this year's fundraiser. *Wii* bowling can be done at home with family and friends or you can come to Jillian's on any Saturday during the month of May from 2pm to 4pm and *Wii* bowl on their wide screen TV. On June 5th there will be a BIG party at Jillian's to acknowledge everyone who participated, raffle off prizes and present the Mayor's **Challenge Cup trophy** to the TEAM that raises the most money.

For more information about Bowl for Kids' Sake contact Jocelyn at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Manchester at 603-669-5365 x 204 or click [HERE](#) to register your team.

We are bowling for one important reason - to raise money to serve the youth in need of a mentor.

Robert D. St.Amand
Board of Directors, HR Committee
Big Brother and BFKS Committee chair

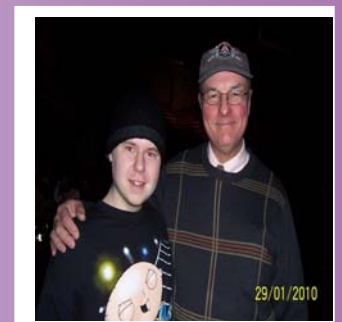
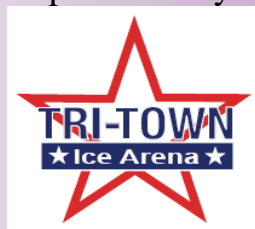


Looking for something fun to do April Vacation?

- WHAT:** Public Skate Fundraiser!
WHEN: Friday April 30th
WHERE: Tri-Town Ice Arena
311 W. River Road
Hooksett, NH 03106
TIME: 3:00 – 4:00pm
COST: \$5.00 to skate - 100% of proceeds goes to BBBSGM!
\$3.00 skate rentals



Sponsored by:





Support our Youth:

Make a donation on their behalf to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Manchester

Call 603-669-5365 or visit us online by clicking [here](#) to donate today!

March Activity:

Remember Colonel Mustard?

Teach a child strategy playing checkers. Help them learn about money while playing Monopoly. It doesn't matter what game you choose. You could even go to the toy store and pick out a game together. A cup of hot chocolate, a board game, and a friend – what better way to spend a rainy April day!

Fundraising Committee Volunteers Needed

We need volunteers to work with Board of Directors in running our 3 major fundraising events. Volunteers will sit on the committee for the event(s) of their choice.

Events include:

- Bowl for Kids Sake (April)
- Golf Outing (September)
- Breakfast (December)

For every match served by BBBSGM, it costs us approximately \$1,000 – that's \$200 less than the national agency average! Without the continued success of our fundraisers, we cannot offer mentoring to all the children who need it in the Greater Manchester area.

For more information please contact Jocelyn Perez
Jocelyn@bbbsmanchester.org

Helpful Improvement

By Greta Casanave, Program Manager

Coming off the Holiday season with candy and desserts being given and enjoyed abundantly, parents will be happy to learn BBBS has special gifts for children. The importance of dental hygiene can never be understated. The agency has special kits available to help children combat cavities. Parents can come by the office and pick these kits up at anytime during office hours. Just a few quick questions and they will be on their way to protecting their children's teeth.



Mark this Date

Plan Ahead for the 18th Annual Golf Outing!

When: Monday, September 20, 2010

Where: Stonebridge Country Club in Goffstown

BBBS is looking for return players and new players to participate in the golf outing this year. Last year, we had over 70 players from the Greater Manchester community and we are hoping to expand that number to 100 players. We need YOU to help us reach our goal!

Foursomes play for \$500. If you are not a golfer, please consider sponsoring a hole for \$200 or two holes for \$300, or donating an item to be used at our outing as a raffle or auction prize. All players and sponsors will be recognized in our day of the event program.

Registration Forms and Sponsorship Forms will soon be posted at bbbsmanchester.org, but please contact Jocelyn at 603-669-5365 x 204 or jocelyn@bbbsmanchester.org for more information or if you have any questions.

Recent Matches

It is our pleasure to welcome the following Bigs and Littles to the Big Brothers Big Sisters Community. We thank the following mentors for their selfless commitment to support and affirm the precious humanity and individual talents of their Little Brothers and Little Sisters. We also thank the young people for doing their utmost to fulfill their individual goals and share their gifts with our community.

New Matches:

Big Sister & Little Sister

- Ashley Bachelder and Mersadese
- Jane Warren and Alissa
- Kaitlin Sampson and Olyvia
- Kathleen Traynor and Benita
- Maggie Barrett and Da'zya
- Sonia Ramos and Monique
- Valerie Roman and Jema

Big Sister & Little Brother

- Brenda Bach and Scott

Big Brother & Little Brother

- Adam Lurgio and Alexandru
- Allen Santos and Michael
- Justin Hall and Jead
- Michael Fowler and Scott
- Robert Santiago and Miguel
- Stephen Press and Zack





Happy Birthday to our Little's born in April

Aimee
Gameal
Jennifer
Jonah
Joshua
Kassie
Kenneth
Kierstin



Mercedes
Mersadese
Miranda
Rachel
Samuel
Sebastian
Starr

Special Thanks

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Manchester would like to extend a special thanks to Police Productions and the Verizon Wireless Arena staff. They generously donated tickets to see country music stars Tracy Atkins and Martina McBride on March 14th, there were 20 Bigs and Littles in attendance. The show was a huge hit! The Bigs and Littles were in great seats; Martina came and sang right in front of the whole group.

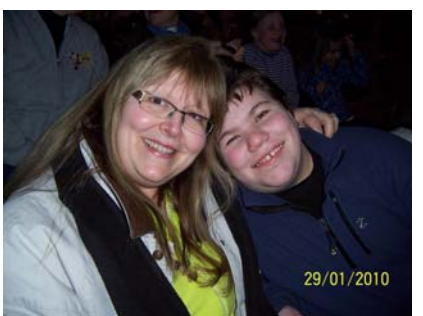
Another BIG thanks to the Verizon Wireless Arena for their donation of 30 tickets so Bigs & Littles could see the Harlem Globetrotters on March 20th. Everyone had a "ball" of a time!

Save the Date

Save the date for the Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentor Appreciation Breakfast. This is our chance to thank each Big for contributing to the life of their Little, and to our community. Bigs, Littles and families are invited to attend, to enjoy flapjacks; coffee and fruit juice and celebrate the Bigs and Littles of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Manchester.

The Mentor Appreciation Breakfast will take place on June 26th from 8:30 to 10:00 am at

Applebee's Restaurant
273 Hooksett Road
Hooksett, NH 03106





Big Brothers Big Sisters

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Cellular Specialties, Inc.

April's Fun Facts

April is a special month for a number of reasons. April brings many showers that make May a beautiful month. This month is also very important for the religions of Christianity and Judaism. During this month both Passover and Easter are celebrated. Passover was the leading of the Jewish people out of captivity by Moses. Easter was the day that Jesus Christ rose from the dead. April also is an important month for honoring nature. Arbor Day is in April. Arbor Day is a celebration of earth. It is common practice to plant a tree during this day.

Keep in Touch

As you know, many of us are on the move, literally. That is why we can't stress enough how important it is for you to notify BBBS when you have any changes with your personal information. We want to make sure you continue to receive announcements and correspondence from BBBS, not to mention, case calls that we are required to make to each match.

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