



Big Brothers Big Sisters

Big News

March 02, 2010

Message from the Board

The Blessings of Two Boys

I have been blessed to be a part of the life of two boys through the Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) program. I have been matched with my current Little, Noah for the past four years. We started spending time together in the Site Based program while he was in a daycare setting. Our relationship has blossomed in the Community Based program where we have been able to explore the outside world! One of our new favorite activities is hanging at my house while Noah perfects his drumming capabilities on my Wii Guitar Hero! We have also gone swimming many times and his bravery of the "deep end" gets stronger each time!

While Noah and I share a very special relationship, I think the importance of the work that is accomplished by BBBS is evident in my relationship with Raven, my first Little. Raven was a mere 4-year old when we were matched. Sometimes, it seems like it was so long ago that it is hard for me to remember. Raven was also in a daycare setting when we were matched, but I remember happily the lunch hours that we spent together. Unfortunately, Raven moved from the Manchester area a couple years after we first met and our relationship seemingly came to an abrupt end. We tried to stay in touch, but even the short distance between Manchester and Nashua seemed hard to overcome. In a serendipitous twist of fate, I saw his mother about a year ago in the store where I buy food for my dog! It turns out Raven and his Mom moved back to Manchester and we have now reconnected! Raven and I still get together, because the bond we forged with BBBS. It gave us a foundation that will allow us to continue a relationship as he begins to develop into a young man.

I have two sons of my own, but I am a strong believer that the young men of our society need all the role models they can possibly have. I only hope that I can play a part of this role to both Noah and Raven. I am very blessed to have both of them in my life!

David Kuhman
Past President

David has been a Big Brother for the last six years. David has also been serving on the Board of Directors of BBBS for the past eight years, including roles as President and Treasurer.

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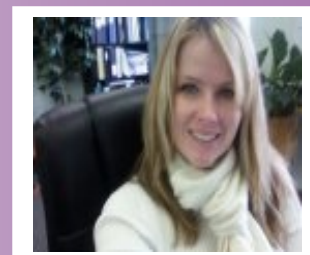
Jocelyn Perez
Executive Director
603-669-5365 x 204





A Message from the Executive Director

With the busyness of the world and our own obligations it is sometimes so easy to get caught up in a whirlwind of well-stress. So for this moment that we are in right now I want to recognize and edify all those who make Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Manchester an agency that effects the lives of so many youth in need. BBBS has the greatest mentors, donors, and board members you could ask for. It is because of their selfless act of giving, that hundreds of at risk youth in greater Manchester's lives have been changed forever. So on behalf of the youth whose lives you are affecting every day by what you give I (we) thank you. There will always be another item on our "to do" list, but never forget the task that you have chosen to do and that is to make a life long impact on hundreds of youth in need.



With Warm Respect,

Jocelyn Perez
Executive Director

Join us in giving a BIG thanks

Join us in thanking Verizon Wireless Arena Staff and Jason Perry for their generous donation of tickets to Disney on Ice. The tickets were a BIG hit. There were about 50 Bigs and Littles in attendance. One of our Bigs told us "It was such an awesome show, I am so grateful! What a great time we had. We both had our crowns on, we sang and laughed. When the show ended, we were totally exhausted."

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Londonderry Clergy Association. They hosted an awesome movie day for Bigs and Littles to enjoy. There were 25 matches in attendance. In particular we would like to thank Craig and Mary Chevalier for purchasing the tickets for Big Brothers Big Sisters.

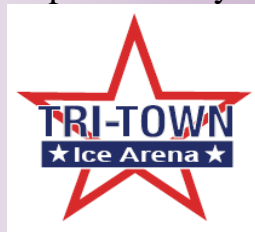




Looking for something fun to do April Vacation?

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:



SAVE THE DATE

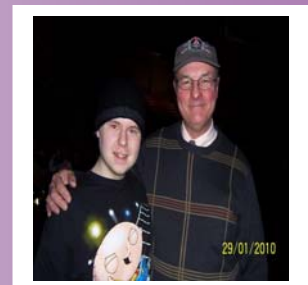
27th Annual Bowl for Kids Sake Fundraiser

DATE: Friday April 16, 2010
TIME: 6:30pm-8:30pm
LOCATION: Lakeside Lanes Candlepins

DATE: Saturday April 17, 2010
TIME: 12:00pm-2:00pm and 2:00pm-4:00pm
LOCATION: Spare Time Manchester (formerly known as Stadium Ten Pin)

Additional times may be available Contact Valerie@bbbsmanchester.org for more information.

2010 Bowl for Kids Sake Platinum Sponsor:





Support our Youth:

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

Call 669-5365 or Visit <http://bbbsgm.kintera.org>
To donate today!

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 (August)
- 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

March Activity:

Looking for a free activity?

Bigs and Littles can go swimming anytime at the Holiday Inn on Brown Avenue. Just mention to the front desk that you are a mentor.

The address is
2280 Brown Ave
Manchester, NH 03103

BIGS Training

By Greta Casanave, Program Manager

Manchester attorney and child safety expert Linda Johnson conducted a special training for members of the BBBS community on Thursday February 18th at the McLane Law Firm. Linda conducts trainings at private schools across the US for faculty and administrators, and as a Big Sister and Manchester resident decided to waive her normal fee, conducting the training pro-bono for other Bigs. Special thanks go out to Linda for her generous donation of her time and talent to other Bigs. If you were unable to attend the training, you are welcome to pick up the written material that Linda put together as an accompaniment; simply come by the BBBS office to pick up your pamphlet. The written materials will be held at BBBS throughout March.



Wanda

By Alicia, Little Sister

When I was 8 years old, I was a lonely girl. I never had anyone to talk to. I would go to my room to cry. I would keep my feelings bundled up inside. Every place I went people would see how sad I was. Then Ms. Ireland gave me an application to become a little sister from Big Brothers Big Sisters program. Then Big Brothers Big Sisters, Girls Inc. and Ms. Ireland had worked together to get me in the program.

Then one November when I was in 4th grade year a Big Brothers Big Sisters staff person came to my school. She asked me many questions and I answered each one truthfully. Then many days passed I waited and waited. Finally, one day I got to go to the Big Brothers Big Sisters building to meet the lady that would change my life forever.

You maybe are wondering who this lady is. Her name is Wanda. She is so kind. She has a husband named Joe. He is so kind too. When Wanda and I met we were only able to see each other in school. Now we go into the community for our fantastic outings.

She has changed my life forever. When I need someone to talk to she is always pleased to listen and give positive feedback. When one of us has something we need to get off our chest we talk. Years ago I was a lonely girl, now I have a wonderful best friend.



Alicia and her "Big" Wanda

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

- Carrie Carson and Amanda
- Jessica Leberman and Yar
- Lindsey Cote and Jennessa
- Emily Fortune and Becky
- Kristen Coventry and Laruyn

Big Brother & Little Brother

- Jeffrey Parkhurst and Ryan
- Michael Fowler and Scott
- Stephen Press and Zack
- Robert Santiago and Miguel
- Allen Santos and Michael

Big Sister & Little Brother

- Sandra Tinker and John





Happy Birthday to our Little's born in March

Athena
Bol
Cori
Courtne
Jack
Jordan
Kristen
Kyle
Laura
Logan



Madyson
Meryssa
Michael
Monique
Nena
Ryan
Saralyn
Shawn
Tvler

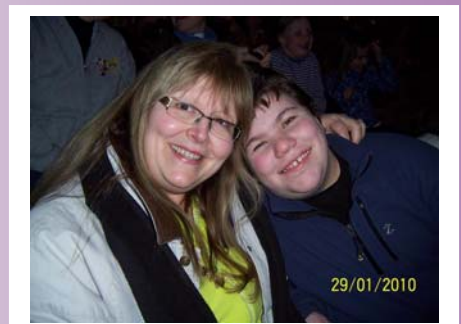
Just a Click Away

What if Big Brothers Big Sisters - Greater Manchester earned a donation every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our cause? Well, now it can!

GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates up to 30 percent of each purchase to your favorite cause! Hundreds of great stores including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, EBay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting your favorite cause.

And if you download the GoodSearch – Big Brothers Big Sisters - Greater Manchester toolbar, our cause will earn money every time you shop and search online - even if you forget to go to GoodShop or GoodSearch first! Add the Big Brothers Big Sisters - Greater Manchester toolbar at <http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/big-brothers-big-sisters-greater-manchester>





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March's Fun Facts

March is the greenest month of the year. Saint Patrick's Day and Earth Day both are in March. Green is the color associated with Saint Patrick and Ireland. Saint Patrick's Day is celebrated around the world, but mainly in Ireland, Canada, and the United States. The holiday has become very famous due to the large number of Irish immigrants that traveled to the United States in search of a better life. Millions of Americans are of Irish descent. The holiday is celebrated in a variety of ways. People eat, drink, and sing Irish music. The majority of Irish Americans settled in Boston, New York, and Chicago. These cities host huge parades. In Chicago and Boston the rivers are dyed Green in honor of the holiday.

Another important day in March is the Spring Equinox. This day brings the official start of spring and the end of winter. It marks the time when light and dark both have 12 hour cycles. Earth day goes along with the start of spring. Earth Day is a day set aside to take care of and clean up the earth.

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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