



Big Brothers Big Sisters Big News



“The BIG Recruit”

Back to School with Big Brothers Big Sisters

As summer vacation winds to a close Big Brothers Big Sisters School Based Program is gearing up to face the 2010/11 school year with Project Mentor: “The BIG Recruit”. Currently operating in the Lancaster City and Pickerington Local Schools, Big Brothers Big Sisters is looking to recruit new school based mentors for the school year. Volunteers will participate in the **Bigs in Schools Program** which allows volunteers to meet with a child within a local school for about one hour, one day a week, for the school year. Many volunteers use their lunch hour one day a week to make their mentoring commitment. Once a volunteer mentor is screened and trained, they will be ready to match with a local youth and together begin developing a trusted friendship. From there great things happen. This is not a tutoring program, rather a program that is designed to encourage the child to develop the assets they need to succeed in school and in life. Big Brothers Big Sisters offers planned activities during the mentoring sessions that focus on positive youth development and encourage academic success.

Teachers love this program for their students and have had some remarkable things to say. Research supports their findings that the children who are mentored have fewer incidents of major classroom misconduct, turn in more homework, and better quality of homework. They get along better with their teachers and classmates and develop a better attitude toward school.

According to results of our local evaluations which measured the effectiveness of Big Brothers Big Sisters School Based Mentoring Program:

- 74% of students developed more positive attitudes toward school.
- 74% improved relationships with adults, and 80% improved relationships with peers
- 82% developed higher levels of self confidence
- 69% advanced overall academic performance

Of the students showing improvements in their grades, 15% improved in one subject, 39% improved in two subjects, 19% improved in 3 subjects and 27% improved in 4 or more subjects.

Talk about IMPACT!!! The Big Brothers Big Sisters School Based Program isn't child's play. Our dedicated staff has big plans for making a real impact in the lives of children in our community helping them grow toward becoming strong, capable adults after graduation.

Call today to volunteer and you, too, can help children in our schools SUCCEED! 740-687-9477 or visit www.bbbs-fairfieldoh.org



August 2010

Highlights:

- Big Recruit
- Match of Month
- Agency Activities

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Mark, Lisa, and Corvan hiking on Mt. Pleasant in Lancaster.

Match of the Month APRIL: Mark, Lisa and Corvon

Mark, Lisa, and Corvon have been matched as a couple with Corvon since April of this year. As self described “empty nesters”, Mark & Lisa decided to volunteer together as a couple. When asked about their decision to volunteer, Mark stated “We’re young and energetic. We have time to give & share with a child”. In their time together, Mark, Lisa, and Corvon have enjoyed playing P.I.G. at Tallmadge elementary school, fishing, riding bikes, and eating ice cream at Fred’s Market. Lisa stated, “What I like about Corvon is that he’s easy to entertain and he likes simple things. Corvon thoroughly enjoys our time together. He just wants your attention”. Likewise, Corvon stated “I like everything about Mark & Lisa. I’ve liked all of the activities we’ve done together”. When reflecting on the future of their match, Mark & Lisa stated, “We look forward to Corvon getting older and to developing our relationship. We hope that his life is impacted by us and that we lay down a foundation for a lifelong friendship”. Congratulations!



Jim and Nathaniel pose at the entrance of Old Man’s Cave.

Match of the Month MAY: Jim and Nathaniel

Jim and Nathaniel have been matched since December 2009. When asked what he likes about having a Big Brother, Nathaniel stated, “I like that it gets me out of the house. It gets me doing stuff that I probably wouldn’t do. It’s a lot of fun”. When asked what his favorite activities have been, Nathaniel stated, “It’s hard to pick. Probably canoeing, playing Frisbee golf, and going to a Clipper’s game were my favorites”. Likewise, Jim stated “I like that Nathaniel likes to try new things. We both enjoy outdoor activities, such as canoeing and fishing. He’s old enough to do more involved activities”. In addition to their fun outside this summer, Nathaniel also stated that Jim helps him personally. Nathaniel stated, “Jim and I talk a lot. He helps me relieve stress from family issues. He’s very funny”. Stating how having a Little Brother has helped him, Jim said “I look forward to our activity each week. It gives me a sense of purpose outside of work and family”. Congratulations Jim & Nathaniel!



Roseann and Jourdan wave to the crowd during the Violet Festival Parade.

Match of the Month JUNE: Roseann & Jourdan

Jourdan and Roseann have been matched since Oct. 2009 in the BBBS School Mentoring Program in Pickerington. They have very much enjoyed their time together and have grown to be good friends. During Jourdan’s lunch period, they play card games, complete schoolwork, and talk about sports. Roseann loves Jourdan’s youthfulness and his ornery smile. She tells us that no matter how good or bad her day is going, Jourdan always makes it better. “He brightens up not just my day, but my whole week.” Roseann said. Jourdan liked having a Big Sister to share his sports knowledge with. Every week he kept Roseann up to date with the latest news in the world of athletics. Jourdan also loved the fact that Roseann remembered his birthday and brought him a little gift. Both Roseann and Jourdan stated that their favorite activity they did together was riding in the 2010 Violet Festival Parade to promote the Big Brothers Big Sisters in the Pickerington area. Congrats Jourdan and Roseann!

AGENCY PICNIC:BBBS and KOHL'S Host Annual Event

Children and families in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Program had the opportunity to experience the fun and excitement of the agency's annual picnic once again this year. Thanks to Kohl's A-team, Sonic Restaurant, and Fairfield Medical Center the event was a huge success. Children had a good time while making tie-dyed t-shirts, and participating in a water balloon toss and tug of war contest with their Bigs. Sonic Restaurant provided hot dogs and bananas for the children and Fairfield Medical Center donated snow cones for the event. Kohl's A-team volunteers helped with serving the food and making the crafts. Thanks to everyone who contributed!



Making tie-dye shirts with Lisa Wells, BBBS School Based Coordinator for Lancaster City Schools.



BBBS Car Wash In Pickerington was sponsored by Arby's and was held on Sat. July 24 at the Pickerington Arby's.. Lisa Justice, manager of Arby's was with us every step of the way to help raise money to support the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. Bigs and Littles came out to do the work while Arby's supplied the water, rags and food for the workers. Thank you.

Did you know? For every **10 children** who enroll in the BBBS program, **8 out of the 10 are boys**. For every **10 volunteers** enrolling to become a Big with our program only **3 out of the 10 are males**. This leaves a huge gap in the number of boys that we can serve. If you are a male who can spend at least an hour per week for a one year commitment mentoring one of the boys who are ready to be matched in our program, please give us a call or visit our website and sign up today! Now is the time that they need us most. visit www.bbbs-fairfieldoh.org



4th Annual FISHING TRIP with Mark Sells from Lancaster Bingo Company on July 10 brings out the BBBS fishermen and women for a morning of fun! Thanks to all those who came out to help.



Thank you!!!

CVS Caremark really cares about kids in our community and has made a generous contribution to Big Brothers/Sisters of Fairfield County by providing a Community Grant in the amount of \$5,000 to support and promote inclusion of special needs students within the local high school. Thank you CVS! Locations in Lancaster and Pickerington. Check local listings.

What does a women's motor cycle group, a clothing retailer, and a glue company all have in common? They all three supported the BBBS Back to School Swim at Tiki Pool on Aug. 4. Chelle's Angels, a Chapter of Women in the Wind motorcycle club, American Eagle Outfitters, and Elmer's Company all contributed to the success of the annual back to school supply give a way and swim party for children in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Agency. Chelle's Angels raises money year round to support their efforts to supply our kids with the necessary supplies for school. They did a fabulous job in making sure our kids were well equipped with supplies. Elmer's contributed glue products as well. American Eagle volunteers were on hand to help with the event and supported the pool rental. Thank you everyone!



Children receiving school supplies from Chelle's Angels at the Back to School Swim.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept. 18	10am-12noon	Trip to Slate Run <i>Historic Park-Transportation provided.</i>
Oct. 29	7-10pm	Scary Movie Night <i>Agency Big Room</i>
Nov. 20	10am	Holiday Parade <i>Fairgrounds</i>
Dec. 3	6-9pm	Christmas Party

*Please give the agency a call if you plan to attend an event.
We need to know who's coming so we can order the right amount of supplies.
740-687-9477*

*Check out COSI...Littles admission is free!
Tiki Bowling...free for Littles!
Amanda Roller Rink: Kids skate free on Sundays 1-3pm!*

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Big Brothers Big Sisters of Fairfield County, Inc.

Our Mission is to help children reach their potential through professionally supported one-on-one mentoring relationships with measurable impact. **Our goal** is to provide a mentoring relationship to every child who needs and wants one, contributing to brighter futures, better schools, and stronger communities for all.

Big Brothers Big Sisters
 of Fairfield County



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