DRAFT Fundraising Letter

***Use the draft/sample below as a guide to write your own letter. Please make changes to personalize.***

Dear (Personalize your Letter with the person’s first name):

I’ve registered for Over The Edge. I will be rappel off of a 11 stories down from the roof of The Patrick Henry in downtown Roanoke on May 19, 2018, as part of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Virginia’s Over The Edge. And to do this, all I need to raise $1,000 by May 3rd!

Why would I do something so crazy?

* First, because it’ll be one heck of a view from up there.
* Second, because it’s not actually crazy, it’s completely safe.
* And third—most importantly—because I believe that every young person in Southwest Virginia deserves the chance to unlock their true potential through one to one mentoring.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Virginia does exactly this. Their mission is to *provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported one-to-one mentoring relationships that change their lives for the better, forever.*

In 2016, **85%** of children enrolled in mentorship programs with BBBS of SWVA reported feeling socially accepted. **77%** of Littles felt scholastically competent and **100%** avoided the Juvenile Justice system. BBBS of SWVA also served 415 children in Southwest Virginia in 2016. Impressive right? This is only possible through the support of donors like you and me!

This inspires me / is important to me because…**(YOUR STORY HERE).**

So I’m excited to both fundraise and rappel! **My goal is to raise $1,000**--enough to support one Big/Little match for one year.

I would like to ask for your support by either joining my team to help me fundraise or by starting your own fundraising page, which will be your first step in rappelling yourself! Are you up for the challenge? If so, please join me. It’ll be simple and fun! Do you know others who are up to the challenge? If so please pass this information on to them so they can experience this unique event!

As you have read, [empowering young people/mentoring/ paying it forward] matters a lot to me and my family. Whether or not you can join me in rappelling or fundraising, please consider **making a donation** today help in our efforts. With your support, we match one of the children currently waiting for a Big Brother or Big Sister.

You can make a gift online at [www.bigslittles.org/OTE](http://www.bigslittles.org/OTE) or you can mail a check (with my name in the memo field) to BBBS of SWVA at 124 Wells Avenue NW, Roanoke, VA 24016.

Thanks so much and I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Yours truly,

Insert Name