



**Big Brothers Big Sisters**  
of Orange County

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# Matchmaker News

THE LITTLE BIG EXPERIENCE

Volume 1, Summer 2017



## Match Highlight

Look what you have started! Introducing our latest match: BS Kayla and LS Gianna. The two of them love arts & crafts, both are left handed and both have birthdays in October. At the end of their match meeting, Gianna expressed how she and Kayla are already "twins." So precious!



## School Based Match Graduation

Littles in the 8th grade class of Valley Central Middle school celebrated their graduation from the program and school on June 14th. Two matches not only celebrated this important milestone, but also the length of their time together.

Bigs Georgiana and Mike were matched with their Littles Alyssa and Reuben when they were in elementary school. As they moved on to middle school their relationships continued to thrive and develop.

Now the Littles prepare to move to the next transition in their lives...high school! Their Bigs are so proud of how far the Littles have come and will continue to be a part of their lives as they move forward.

We are so proud of the school based programming at Valley Central Middle school and grateful for the support our Littles have. One parent shared her appreciation for the experience her child had with his Big, *"Nancy and I want to thank both of you (Big and BBBSOC staff) for giving Damon such a great opportunity to build a relationship with you. Frank, he really respects you and counts you as a friend (as do we!!). You have enriched his life more than you can know. I truly hope you and he can continue your friendship as Damon moves out of the middle school."*

Two of our school based matches will become community based matches.



## We Need You!

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County is in search of caring volunteers (Bigs) to serve as mentors to at-risk kids (Littles) in our program.

Right now there are more than 50 children ready to be matched and waiting for a mentor. Potential volunteers sometimes feel uncertain of their ability to mentor a youth, and wonder what to do during their time together, or how they will fit mentoring into their schedule.

Not to worry! We take care of these concerns by making volunteering flexible and just a few hours a month. We take great care in finding the right volunteer to match with each child, and in providing each person in our program with the on-going guidance they need to be successful.

BBBSOC supports each volunteer every step of the way.

**You don't have to change your life to impact the life of a child!**

For more information go to:

[http://  
www.mentorachild.org/get-  
involved/become-a-big/](http://www.mentorachild.org/get-involved/become-a-big/)

## The Perfect Match



BB Dan and LB EJ have been together a little over a year now. When asked what he likes most about his BB, EJ says that he likes his BB because “he treats me like I am in his family”. So sweet!

## Supporter Spotlight

Thank you First Niagara Foundation for your support of \$15,000 over the next 3 years!



Thanks to our newest sponsor MVP Healthcare!



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*“A mentor is someone who sees more talent and ability within you, than you see in yourself, and helps bring it out of you.” ~ Bob Proctor*

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## Look at the Power of Our Matches!



BS Denise and LS Arianna conducted a fundraiser during a yard sale. They managed to raise over \$137 and they wanted all proceeds to come to the agency. We cannot tell you how much your efforts touched our hearts. We love our matches!

## UPCOMING VOLUNTEER & MATCH ACTIVITIES



- Volunteer Think Tank, July 18th, 6:00-8:00pm, Mount Saint Mary College. Admissions/The Villa.**  
 Please join us as we thank you for all the work you do with your Little and for BBBSOC. It will also be an opportunity to share ideas and network with others mentors as well as BBBSOC staff. Call 845-562-5900, ext 12 to **RSVP by July 5th**
- Summer Family Picnic, August 19th, 12:00-4:00pm. Camp Robbins, Walden, NY.** A return of our annual summer event to celebrate our Bigs, Little and their families. There will be food, fun, music, swimming and MUCH MORE! Call 845-562-5900, ext 18 to **RSVP by August 1st**

## UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS



- Zumba Fitness for a Cause, July 29th, 10:00am-12:30pm, CYO of Washingtonville, 76 Goshen Avenue, Washingtonville, NY 10992.** Come shake, groove and feel good as you support our mentoring program. **To register go to: <http://bit.ly/zumbafitnessforacause2017>** You can also register the day of the event at the venue.
- 9th Annual Fore the Kids Golf Classic, August 28th, 8:00am-5:00pm, West Point Golf Course, West Point, NY.** Be a sponsor or golf with a foursome! The day includes, golf, driving range, 18 Hole Shotgun Start - Four Person Scramble, Lunch, Dinner, Beverage on the course & Awards. Fun raffle, 50/50 & auction items spice up the day. When you support this event you share the vision that all children can achieve success in life. Big Brothers Big Sisters provides children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported 1 to 1 relationships that change their lives for the better. **To register as a golfer or a sponsor, go to: <http://bit.ly/forethekidsgolf2017>**

## Happy Anniversary!



Our goal is to support long-term relationships between our Littles and Bigs. Congratulations to our matches that have met these outstanding milestones:

### 1 year

LS Aaliyah & BS Arlene  
 LS Nia & BS Nancy  
 LB Ammarah & BS Ajia  
 LB President & BS Jasmine  
 LS Joanna & BS Stacey and BS Alexis  
 LB Bryce & BB Louis  
 LS A'mya & BS Ana  
 LS Arianna & BS Denise  
 LB Christopher & BB Jason  
 LS Quinn & BS Wonha  
 LB Edward & BB Daniel  
 LB Thomas & BB Nathan  
 LB Sebastian & BB Juan  
 LB Nicholas & BB Chris  
 LS Serenity & BS Teisha  
 LS Makaiya & BS Tina  
 LB Stephan & BS Ashleigh  
 LS Jaziah & BS Jessica  
 LS Carly & BS Carly  
 LB John & BB Matthew  
 LB Jacob & BB Rick  
 LS Erin & BS Rachael  
 LS Leia & BS Mildred  
 LB Blaize & BB Juston  
 LB Jacob & BB Gabriel

### 2 years

LS Sarai & BS Stephanie  
 LS Jeda & BS Jennifer  
 LB Joseph & BB Glenn  
 LB Adam & BB Jonathan  
 LS Jada & BS Alexis  
 LB Nkosi & BS Maryanne and BB Larry  
 LS Hailey & BS Leighann  
 LB Jayden & BB John  
 LS Yaritssa & BS Jennifer  
 LS Sindy & BS Lisa  
 LS Deziree & BS Linda  
 LB TeAndre & BB Ruben

LS Christasia & BS Lisa  
 LB Shane & BB Patrick  
 LS Trinity & BS Emily  
 LB Romaine & BB Karl  
 LS Hanna & BS Teresa  
 LB James & BB Martin  
 LS Rosaya & BS Valerie  
 LB Tyler & BB George  
 LS Alona & BS Jade  
 LS Arianna & BS Ashley  
 LB Jeremiah & BB Richard

### 3 years

LS Ashalya & BS Sarah  
 LS Zamira & BS Rebecca  
 LS Cami & BS Annalie  
 LS Tionna & BS Kayla and BS Amanda  
 LS Yazzari & BS Margaret  
 LB Brandon & BB Michael  
 LB David & BB Joseph  
 LS Princess & BS Nicole and BS Christina  
 LB Master & BS Lauren and BB Lawrence  
 LS Roderra & BS Melissa and BS Malaina  
 LB Zavier & BS Ingrid  
 LS Ayonna & BS Rose and BS Marissa  
 LS Amir & BS Raelynn

### 4 years

LS Hannah & BS Jennifer  
 LS Tatyana & BS Kimberly

### 5 years

LB Paul & BB Frank  
 LB Reuben & BB Michael  
 LS Ciara & BS Dominique

### 6 Years

LB Christian & BS Hilda  
 LB Keshawn & BB Timothy

### 7 years

LB Carlos & BB Colby  
 LS Rachel & BS Elizabeth

### 10 years

LS Nyla & BS Marguerite



## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

As we release the first edition of the Matchmaker News, I realize I am just shy of my one year anniversary here at BBBSOCNY. It has been a whirlwind of a year: getting to know our work first hand, working with our staff team, and meeting the volunteers who impact the lives of young people around Orange County. As an adult, we can all remember a person from our childhood who we not only looked up to, but who brought a little magic into our life, just by being there. Likely, it was someone other than our parents and someone we respected. This person helped guide us to become the person we are today. This is what our Bigs do each time they meet with their Little. This is the power of mentoring. It is inspiring to hear and share the stories of the matches of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County! We could not do this work without our mentors, and we could not do this work without you - our friends and supporters. Thank you for all you do for us. I hope you will enjoy the Matchmaker News as we capture the impact of our work, recognize our partnerships and celebrate making the difference in the life of a child.



### Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County, NY

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County, NY (BBBSOC) operates under the belief that inherent in every child is the ability to succeed and thrive in life.

BBBSOC's mission is to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported one-to-one relationships that change their lives for the better, forever.

By collaborating with families, volunteers and others in the community, BBBSOC is accountable for each enrolled child achieving higher aspirations, greater confidence, better relationships, avoidance of risky behaviors and educational success.

## Ways to give BIG

There are lots of ways to donate to Big Brothers Big Sisters. Whichever way you choose, you'll be helping us make a positive impact on kids in your community.



### Donate Online

Donating online is the fastest, easiest way to join the Big Brothers Big Sisters mission and help a child.



### Donate By Check

In addition to the fast, simple, and secure ways that you can make a gift online, Big Brothers Big Sisters is honored to accept your gift made by personal check.



### Foundation & Corporate Giving

Philanthropy starts with you. Big Brothers Big Sisters is grateful for financial support from foundations and corporations.



### Car Donation Program

Donate your car to Big Brothers Big Sisters. We'll sell it, then start something with the proceeds. For more information call us at (845) 562-5900.



### Do Good Donate Clothing Program

Schedule a free pick-up, or drop clothes off at a local bin. Host a clothing Drive to fund-raise for YOUR organization, and both of us benefit from the proceeds! Call (877) 399-2570, to schedule pick-up and for more information.

For more information please visit our website at:

[www.mentorachild.org](http://www.mentorachild.org)

Don't forget to connect with us on social media



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County, NY