

## Big Brothers Big Sisters Board Report February 2019

### Participants:

- # of School Based Matches – 68.
- # of Community Based Matches – 58. Waiting List – 140.
- # of Work Place Mentoring Matches – 8.

### Program Highlights:

- All 30 beds/mattresses that were allotted to us through the Hope To Dream Project at Ashley Home Store have been distributed to needy families within the BBBS and various PEACE programs. 10 more will come our way in May, then October and then December.
- Old Navy at Destiny USA allowed us to set up a table inside their store on Sat March 2<sup>nd</sup>. We were able to recruit 3-4 new Bigs while we were there.
- On Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 16 Littles from our Dr. King Elementary and Seymour Dual Language Academy school based programs went to the War Memorial to watch the Harlem Globetrotters. Everyone in our party had a “Magic Pass” in which they were able to meet the players, have their pictures taken with the Globetrotters and get autographs. Everyone had a great time with lots of laughing, dancing cheering from the Littles and Bigs. The biggest surprise of the day was....the Globetrotters WON!!!!!!!!!!
- Go to <http://www.93q.com/street-talk/> Click on to the Street Talk 3/15/19 interview to hear a segment promoting our BBBS program.

### Upcoming Events:

- Bowl For Kids Sake....Sun March 31<sup>st</sup>....Flamingo Bowl in Liverpool.
- Spirit Night at Chick-fil-A in Cicero....Wed April 17<sup>th</sup>....5:00 pm to 9:00 pm....BBBS will receive 15% of all sales....customers have to mention BBBS when ordering their food.

### Success Story:

Approximately 10 years ago, we had a big who was very close with his little. Tragically, his little died in a car accident. The big was devastated. For years he could not emotionally get over this loss. We



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lost all contact with him.

Two months ago, one of our mentor managers was contacted by an individual who wanted to be a big. That big, as in all matches, had to submit the names of three references for us to check with. When we spoke to this individual, we asked her how she heard about our program. She said one of her references, her boss, told her about it. When our mentor manager contacted the reference (her boss), our manager asked him why he referred his employee to us. At first, the boss didn't say much, only mentioning that he was at one time associated with the program. However, as the conversation went on, he revealed that he was the big the lost the little back when. It was hard for him to speak about, but gradually he led on that his overall experience with BBBS was an incredibly rewarding experience that he will never forget. Cautiously, our mentor manager suggested that if he ever found the time to become a big once more, he should contact us.

Well, his employee officially became a big for us. Three weeks later, the boss called us to inform us that he was once again ready. He overcame the bad memories of the past to make himself available to a new little now. By the time we completed all the necessary steps, he was all excited to get started.