



Prepared for: David Scharoun, Board President & PEACE Inc. Board of Directors

Prepared by: John Bruzdziński, Director BBBS

Subject: BBBS Program Report

The following is a report for the Big Brothers Big Sisters program activities for the month of January 2018

- we held our first Advisory Council member meeting since September. We have re-organized and re-energized. See the attached file for a roster of Council members. During the meeting we basically introduced ourselves to everyone, we spoke about our more urgent needs and concerns and reviewed the list of upcoming important dates and events. Joe O'Hara was in attendance for the 1st half of the meeting and was able to hear each member speak a little bit about themselves.
- at the start of the Council meeting, Joe O'Hara and Sharon Thompson presented Community Based Manager Sadequa Fore with the PEACE Inc. Employee of the Month Award. Well deserved. Since our other Community Based Manager left our program in October, Sadequa has been doing her normal case load, one extra of her own AND the case load and extra of the manager who left. In addition to that, she drives our "littles" to program 3-4 days a week. True dedication and loyalty.
- a request for 2018 funding officially went out to Senator DeFrancisco in early January. Last year's \$ support from the Senator helped us secure our BBBS van that transports our "littles" to program each day during the week.
- Stephanie and John were invited to lunch by the Camillus-Solvay-Geddes Rotary Club. Stephanie and John enjoyed their Copper Top meal, had a nice time speaking with all the members and had the chance to present information on our BBBS program.
- John went to Inner Harbor Communications in mid January to pre-record an interview that focused on our BBBS program. The interview was then aired on the 3rd Sunday of the month on 4 different local radio stations...95.3 the Dinosaur, 96.5 The Beat, 92.1 The Wolf and 92.5 Fox Sports. We will be doing a 2nd interview soon that will focus on our Bowl For Kids Sake event.

- on Jan 18th Melissa Hidek and John Bruzdinski met with Common Councilor Susan Boyle at our Corcoran-Roberts program. Susan observed the "Bigs" working with their "littles".
- on Jan 19th we met with Anthony Congel to discuss his Rooms4Kids project and have taken a step toward getting Aidan and Adeline's rooms (two Community Based "littles", renovated and painted. He also said that he will donate a gift card for painting services for BFKS and will look into getting some SU signed merchandise from "the vault". His wife works for Pyramid and he is going to speak to her about donated items from the mall as well.
- John and LaToya (school based manager) went to the LeMoyne College Club Fair on 1/24 to recruit "bigs". We signed up about 25 interested students. Ebony and LaToya signed up a handful more "bigs" when they returned to LeMoyne 2 days later and sat in on a student lunch.
- the annual Onondaga County Office of Children and Family Services report was submitted in late January.
- the 6 month semi-annual report for United Way was submitted in late January.
- John and Stephanie attended a United Way training session...reporting methods was the theme of the training.
- for National Mentoring Month, every week we've been posting for #WaitingWednesday to highlight a child on the Wait List. Sadequa also made posts for #MatchMonday to showcase a Match in Community-Base, but we would like to continue this and include School-Based matches as well.
- we sent Thank You cards to our Community-Based Bigs for National Thank You Mentor Day (01/25/18).
- we have decided on a location for the Volunteer Dinner (Pascale's) and are awaiting the Council's approval.
- we are unable to have Ted & Amy from 93Q at BFKS, but Amy said that in March she will have us on the radio again to talk about the event and advertise on the four Cumulus stations (93Q, 95X, The Rebel, and The Score).
- on Feb 1st Melissa Hidek and John met with Elizabeth Snow from the John Ben Snow Foundation. Elizabeth came to our Fowler-Delaware program to observe the "bigs" and "littles" working together.
- staff, "bigs" and "littles" all attended the Crunch game on Feb 3rd, courtesy of the Syracuse Crunch. About 20 people from our program all enjoyed an evening of hockey action.