



A MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WILLIAM SALCEDO

Dear Friends,

Education is the foundation on which our lives are built. It teaches us to think and wonder and gives us the ability to be self-sufficient and realize our dreams. Education elevates more than just us as individuals; our communities and society benefit as well. It aids in making informed decisions, improves communication, and increases prosperity.

A high school education is the most valuable first step to realizing our fullest potential. For our Littles that have graduated this year, education is also one of their first major achievements in life. And for many, it is the foundation that they will build on in college.

I hope all of our graduating Littles dream BIG and make the most of their education and lives. You have completed your first step to success, and you can do anything you can imagine. We at BBBSCNNJ are incredibly proud of you!

Sincerely,

William Salcedo
Executive Director

LITTLE BROTHER HEADS TO MONTCLAIR



This month, we are proud to highlight Little Brother Toni! Toni turned 18 in June and is heading off to Montclair State University for the 2021-2022 academic year. His 9-year match with his Big Brother Carlo will soon be coming to a close; however, Toni stated recently that he knows their relationship will continue. Toni's Big Brother shared how proud he is of Toni and stated, "I feel like he is going to do great things in college." Carlo plans on getting Montclair sweatshirts to represent Toni's school and support his academic future. Toni is an avid soccer and paintball lover who has participated in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program since 2011. We wish him lots of luck in all his future endeavors!

CONGRATS GRADUATES!

We are so proud of our Littles who have completed our programs, graduated high school, and are off to college! Here are some of the great schools that they will be attending in the fall:

- Brookdale Community College
- Middlesex College
- University of Delaware
- Felician University
- Montclair State University
- University of Maryland
- Kent State University
- Ocean County College
- Warren County College



LUNCH & LEARN

Spend your lunch break learning all the ways you can make an impact and defend the potential of kids in Coastal & Northern New Jersey! There are many ways to get involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters, and a Lunch & Learn webinar is a great opportunity to learn more with zero pressure to sign up. Best of all, it'll only take 30 minutes of your day!

Join us on Tuesday, August 17th at 12 PM. Email info@mentornj.org to register!



OUR MISSION PARTNERS Want to become a Mission Partner? To learn more, contact us at 732.544.2224



BIG COUPLE MAKE BIG IMPACT ON LITTLE

Meet Big Couple Steve and Linda and their Little Brother Michye! Steve, Linda, and Michye have been matched for a year and a half and love spending time together.

Steve and Linda have gone above and beyond to stay connected with Michye. During COVID, they kept in touch by having virtual game nights and even making their own bird feeders over Zoom. Recently, Michye, Linda, and Steve went to the park to enjoy science projects and games. Michye had a great time

getting hands on science experience and even won a few games of Connect Four.

Michye describes his Big Couple as fun, nice, and funny. He loves having the opportunity to interact with both Steve and Linda; he often thanks his Case Manager for providing him with two Bigs! Similarly, Michye's mother is grateful that her son is getting out into the community and sharing in new activities. Here's to many more creative outings!



MID-YEAR MATCH-A-THON

Our Mid-Year Match-a-Thon is almost over, and we still need your help to create 20 new matches! This is an opportunity for you to spark hope for the kids on our waiting list. Your gift today will bring the joy of a trusted

friend into a child's life. Mentoring is an impactful step toward a brighter future – and you can make it happen!

Donate Now at mentornj.org/matchkids



101 kids are waiting for a mentor NOW.

Donate or apply to be a Big today to match these kids with a mentor.

Because if you don't, who will?

mid-year
MATCH-A-THON
mentornj.org/matchkids



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO OUR JULY MATCHES

- Big Brother Christopher & Little Brother Logan **7 Years**
- Big Brother David & Little Brother Dominic **6 Years**
- Big Brother Christopher & Little Brother Tyler **5 Years**
- Big Brother Nicholas & Little Brother Messiah **4 Years**
- Big Sister Jennifer & Little Sister Zarriah **3 Years**
- Big Brother Michael & Little Brother Christopher **3 Years**
- Big Brother Eric & Little Brother Jaidyn **3 Years**
- Big Brother Lawrence & Little Brother Tyler **3 Years**
- Big Sister Kelly & Little Sister Summer **3 Years**
- Big Brother Park & Little Brother Jeremiah **2 Years**
- Big Brother Napis & Little Brother Christopher **2 Years**
- Big Sister Madelyne & Little Sister Kaite **2 Years**
- Big Sister Casey & Little Sister Khloe **2 Years**
- Big Sister Stephanie & Little Sister Emelie **1 Year**
- Big Sister Bethany & Little Sister Jada **1 Year**
- Big Brother Michael & Little Brother James **1 Year**
- Big Sister Jenepher & Little Sister Kelly **1 Year**
- Big Sister Kellie & Little Sister Janaya **1 Year**
- Big Brother Michael & Little Brother Jabbar **1 Year**



Sunday, September 12, 2021

Spend a day in the sand at Manasquan Beach to support our mission!

Join this great community fundraising event to raise funds and play volleyball to benefit our one-to-one mentoring programs!

Learn more at mentornj.org/volleyball

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Sip. Savor. Support.

Join us for a celebration of togetherness to sustain and expand our one-to-one mentoring programs for local youth. Enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres, fine wine and cocktails, live entertainment, and exciting auctions!

Learn more at mentornj.org/biggertogether



THE BIG WAIT

Branden is an 11-year-old boy who enjoys baseball, fishing, and being outdoors. He previously participated in an after-school karate program and enjoys practicing his skills when he has free time. Branden is looking forward to being matched with a Big Brother who likes being outside and playing baseball as much as he does!

Become A Big at mentornj.org/beabig

TOGETHER, WE ARE DEFENDERS OF POTENTIAL

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