



LETTER FROM BIG SISTER PAMELA DELANUEZ

Dear Friends & Supporters of BBBSCNNJ,

My involvement with BBBS for the past 6 years has been nothing short of life changing. Growing up in a predominantly white town in Northern New Jersey, I was one of five minority students in both grammar and high school. As a Hispanic female, outside of my mother and aunt, I did not have anyone that looked like me or had even experienced a life quite like mine. My parents were divorced, my biological father was incarcerated, and we did not have much money. While I had a lot of friends, most of this was unheard of in my small affluent town.

I felt... different.

As I went through college and early into my career, I continued to feel like no one understood who I was, where I came from, what I had gone through and what it meant to me to go where I wanted to go in life. Reeling from a divorce, I knew I had to give back and make a difference in someone else's life, but also mine.

I got matched with my Little Sister when she was 7 years old. Her mother was understandably cautious with her little girl, so we picnicked in her backyard wearing pink feather boas and got to know each other. Through the years, we have bonded and shared everything under the sun. I hope she's learned a lot from me, that she sees me as someone who looks (kinda) like her, understands her, and will support and applaud her path in life, no matter what that might be.

I am currently a Big Sister, as well as a regional board member and I sit on the DEI committee of this amazing organization whose mission is to create and support one-to-one mentoring that ignites potential in our youth. I hope this month's newsletter showcasing the work BBBSCNNJ is doing across the state is as inspiring to you as my relationship with my Little is to me.

Best,
Pamela DeLaNuez, *Big Sister*



RECORD NUMBER OF TEAMS FOR THE 15TH ANNUAL BEACH VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT



The event raised more than \$35,000 this year and all proceeds will benefit the expansion of programs offered by BBBSCNNJ to fulfill our mission to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth.

Read more about this event including all sponsors at mentornj.org/volleyball-pr.

On Sunday, September 12th, we held our annual tournament on Main Street beach in Manasquan, NJ. The tournament included 29 teams of 6-8 people who each raised at least \$100 to participate. There were two divisions: competitive and recreational. New team, Sandy Pipes, won the competitive division and returning team Seaview Orthopaedic took home the recreational division prize. Additionally, tournament sponsor and first-time team, Fortune Flyers of Fortune Title Agency, took home the Highest Fundraising Team trophy; and longtime tournament competitor, Michael Weshnak, earned the Highest Fundraising Individual award.



Congratulations to the winners and thank you to all who participated, volunteered, sponsored, and donated – see you next year!

To find other upcoming events for BBBSCNNJ, visit mentornj.org/events.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS?



Spend your lunch break learning about the ways you can make an impact and defend the potential of kids in Coastal & Northern NJ! There are many ways to get involved with BBBS, 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
Thursday, October 21st at 12 PM.
Email info@mentornj.org to register!

J-E-T-S JETS JETS JETS!



Big Brother Sam and Little Brother Aaron had a blast welcoming the NY Jets back to the Meadowlands for their home opener! Through our longstanding partnership, the NY Jets are providing a match with a VIP experience at each of their home games this season. Sam and Aaron had VIP seating, lunch, and a shopping spree at the team store and enjoyed every second of their special day. We are proud to team up with the NY Jets and to be a part of the NFL Inspire Change Initiative.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE PREPS LITTLES FOR A GREAT YEAR!



This school year, 168 Littles and children waiting to be matched received backpacks and school supplies. Our generous donors

from AT&T, Church of the Nativity, UBS, Starbucks, Manasquan Bank, TDK-LAMDA, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Fox & Roach Realtors, The Freehold Mall, Geico Cares, The Heldrich Hotel and Aspire Technology Partners all made it possible for the children to be well-equipped for a successful school year! In addition to school supplies, Brandon's Kicks donated brand new sneakers to 94 children enrolled in our program. We are so thankful for our community of donors that helped kick off the school year on the right foot.

BIG & LITTLE BOND OVER A NEW HOBBY



Little Brother Ostin and Big Brother Angel are getting ready to celebrate their first-year anniversary. When Ostin came to

BBBS he was having a hard time socializing with peers, he was shy around others and afraid of not being accepted. Since being matched with Big Brother Angel, Ostin has gained greater self-confidence and improved school performance both socially and academically. With Angel's friendship, help, and consistency, Ostin has made a lot of progress. After each outing, they read a chapter of a book together which has made reading more fun for Ostin. Now, BB and LB share a love of reading, and they are looking forward to making more memories together!

BBBS MONTH CELEBRATES CONFIDENCE IN RETURNING TO THE CLASSROOM

This month we celebrated the second annual Big Brothers Big Sisters Month in the United States. In 2020, amid the global pandemic, the inaugural BBBS Month campaign focused on generating awareness that our mission is an essential service and our work had not stopped. This year with young people across the nation returning to a traditional classroom setting after months of social isolation,

disconnection from critical support and inequitable virtual learning environments, our goal has been to ensure all kids have the support and confidence they need to thrive during this important school year.

All month, we've celebrated and called on children and teens, parents, partners, donors, and advocates to be part of the village empowering kids in our community. One

DREAM TEAM MATCH



Big Brother Peter and Little Brother Sean are about to celebrate one year of friendship and have easily connected over their interest in sports. Together they have enjoyed playing basketball, tossing a football around, hiking, kayaking and most recently they attended a New York Giants game. They also plan on touring a local college campus and visiting NYC to see the Intrepid Museum. These two have had tons of fun together, but also have learned a lot. When asked about his relationship with Sean, Peter explained, "I am happy to show Sean new things and if topics like college, his future, and even friendship are brought up, I am here to help. It's great to see the growth in our relationship and I feel we have meaningful conversations." Throughout their friendship, Sean has shared how easy it is to talk to Peter. Sean describes Peter as "smart, fun, a good guy and gives good advice." We look forward to watching this friendship grow!



simple way for you to support our efforts is to share your story – whether that is your experience as a Big or Little, a donor, volunteer, or advocate for our program – spreading the word helps to inspire others to join our network and ultimately expand our reach within our local communities.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPACT OF OUR AMERICAN LATINO COMMUNITY



Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15th through October 15th) is a time to recognize and celebrate the many contributions,

diverse cultures, and extensive histories of the American Latino community. We are grateful for the contributions made by the Latino community to Big Brothers Big Sisters. Little Brother Zuriel and Big Brother Rodrigo are from different Hispanic cultures but share a love of food and soccer. Big Sister Ariadne and Little Sister Haylin are newly matched, both are from Mexico and look forward to learning more about each other. Thank you to the Latino volunteers, donors, and families in our network for your impactful involvement in BBBSCNNJ!

THE BIG WAIT

Landon is a polite, talkative, 9-year-old who just began 4th grade. At school Landon's teachers refer to him as a role model. His interests center around sports, in particular baseball and football. He's excited to start the fall baseball season with his township league. Once Landon has a Big Brother, he hopes to spend time with him being active and outdoors & practicing his baseball skills.

Become A Big at mentornj.org/beabig

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO OUR SEPTEMBER MATCHES

- Big Sister Patricia & Little Sister Jaylen **10 Years**
- Big Sister Jennifer & Little Sister Nevaeh **8 Years**
- Big Sister Jennifer & Little Sister Ashley **7 Years**
- Big Sister Lorraine & Little Sister Alanna **7 Years**
- Big Sister Gabriella & Little Sister Carli **6 Years**
- Big Sister Jeanne & Little Sister Jonajah **6 Years**
- Big Brother Nick & Little Brother Aiden **6 Years**
- Big Sister Kris & Little Sister Lily **5 Years**
- Big Sister Jenica & Little Sister Megan **5 Years**
- Big Sister Jane & Little Sister Khadeija **5 Years**
- Big Brother Joe & Little Brother Logan **4 Years**
- Big Sister Komilla & Little Sister Precious **4 Years**
- Big Sister Kim & Little Sister Angelleah **3 Years**
- Big Brother Richard & Little Brother Alex **3 Years**
- Big Brother Joseph & Little Brother Dylan **3 Years**
- Big Sister Sarah & Little Sister Sunaii **3 Years**
- Big Couple Quinn & Lisa & Little Brother Kevin **3 Years**
- Big Sister Kaitlyn & Little Sister Tia **2 Years**
- Big Sister Danielle & Little Sister Sherlyn **2 Years**
- Big Sister Sarann & Little Sister Melanie **2 Years**
- Big Sister Catherine & Little Sister Riley **2 Years**
- Big Sister Sofia & Little Brother Ari **2 Years**
- Big Brother Michael & Little Brother James **2 Years**
- Big Sister Elaine & Little Sister Talya **1 Year**
- Big Brother Michael & Little Brother Jose **1 Year**
- Big Sister Marta & Little Sister Melanie **1 Year**
- Big Brother Angel & Little Brother Ostin **1 Year**
- Big Brother Bryan & Little Brother Jaden **1 Year**
- Big Sister Devin & Little Sister DeVita **1 Year**
- Big Sister Jessica & Little Sister Leilaah **1 Year**
- Big Sister Camille & Little Sister Anabella **1 Year**
- Big Sister Jennifer & Little Sister Jye-Asia **1 Year**
- Big Sister Rebecca & Little Sister Farrah **1 Year**
- Big Brother John & Little Brother Dazay **1 Year**
- Big Sister Michele & Little Sister Coraline **1 Year**



Thursday, September 30, 2021

Sip. Savor. Support.

Join us at Cross & Orange in Asbury Park for a celebration of togetherness to sustain and expand our one-to-one mentoring programs for local youth.

Learn more at mentornj.org/biggertogether



Saturday, October 23, 2021

Run, walk, or twirl 2.2 miles in a tutu.

Join us on the Boardwalk in Asbury Park to win fun prizes and defend the potential of children in our community.

Learn more at mentornj.org/tutu

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

