LETTER FROM LITTLE SISTER ALUMNA, SAMANTHA

Dear Friends,

It is hard to pick out just a few highlights from my friendship with Leah because we’ve done so much together. We’ve celebrated holidays, birthdays, half birthdays, my first communion, the birth of my little sister, and moving. Outings over the years have included the circus, pumpkin patches, Halloween parties, Christmas tree farms (and decorating afterward!), school events, roller skating, painting ceramics, hiking, and so much more!

Even better than the celebrations and outings though, Leah has always been one of my biggest supporters. She is the true definition of a Big Sister. I could not have asked for someone better. She has always encouraged me to step out of my shell and experience new things, eat new foods, meet new people, and set new goals for myself.

I know we are celebrating our 20-year match anniversary but honestly, it just feels like she has always been a part of my life. She’s more than a Big to me, she’s family.

Something I want all Bigs to know is that you are making a bigger difference in the life of your Little than you know. Yes, there will be big, memorable moments but it’s the little things and consistent support that make the biggest impact.

Thank you to my Big Sister Leah and Big Brothers Big Sisters for all that you have done for me and so many other children!

Samantha
Little Sister Alumna
GONE FISHING WITH IMMEDIATE CARE!

Biggs and Littles set sail on the Immediate Care Fishing Trip earlier this month. The sun was shining, the fish were biting, and the matches were smiling. We are so thankful that Immediate Care chose Big Brothers Bigs Sister for this amazing day of fishing, food, prizes and bonding experiences.

JOHNSON & JOHNSON SCAVENGER HUNT MUSEUM TOUR

Johnson & Johnson (J&J) invited our matches to attend a J&J Scavenger Hunt Museum Tour where matches and families were able to explore the new museum (which hasn’t been open to the public yet!) and learn about the history of how J&J came to be and the many products they sell. Afterwards, Bigs & Littles made ice cream sundaes together. Everyone had a great time and loved the variety of activities being educational but also fun, and of course finishing the day with a sweet treat!

GIRLS ON F.I.R.E. WRAPS UP

We recently celebrated our final session of the Girls on F.I.R.E. Empowerment Program. The girls toured Monmouth University, created personalized journals, had a time of sharing, received certificates, and participated in a Capoeira class. We are so proud of these girls and their commitment to this program. We can’t wait to see them, along with new faces, in our second year of the program!
Little Brother Logan and Big Brother Chris have been matched for 8 years now! Logan is now entering his senior year of high school and is learning to drive with help from Chris. They don’t miss a beat with regular outings every other week. A year into the program, Logan’s mom told her Case Manager that she “thanks her lucky stars for this program.” We’re thrilled to see the natural friendship that has formed after consistent quality time together, something we strive for with all our matches! Logan recently said: “I don’t care what we’re doing – I’m happy even just running errands with him.” Both Logan and Chris agree that this is a lifelong friendship.

### Happy Anniversary to our August Matches

**7 Years**
- Big Sister Pamela & Little Sister Jelinez

**6 Years**
- Big Brother Michael & Little Brother Robert

**5 Years**
- Big Brother Michael & Little Brother Nasir
  - Big Brother Seth & Little Brother Brody

**3 Years**
- Big Sister Lauren & Little Sister Maria
  - Big Sister Marybeth & Little Sister Alliana
  - Big Brother Bryan & Little Brother Jaiden

**2 Years**
- Big Brother Joseph & Little Brother Damien
  - Big Sister Rebecca & Little Sister Jayne
  - Big Brother Jeffrey & Little Brother Elijah
  - Big Brother John & Little Brother Aaron
  - Big Sister Jennifer & Little Sister Emeralda
  - Big Sister Kathleen & Little Sister Amiya
  - Big Sister Emily & Little Sister Piper

**1 Year**
- Big Sister Christiana & Little Sister Alanna
  - Big Brother Steven & Little Brother Malik
  - Big Sister Tara & Little Sister Leylani
  - Big Brother Ammar & Little Brother Sky
  - Big Sister Aarti & Little Sister Emily
  - Big Sister Courtney & Little Sister Olivia
  - Big Brother Devin & Little Brother Ashvi
  - Big Brother Darren & Little Brother Jabaree
  - Big Brother Manny & Little Brother Jayden
  - Big Sister MJ & Little Sister Yasmin
  - Big Sister Kayla & Little Jadalyn

### Beach Volleyball Tournament

![Annual Beach Volleyball Tournament](image)

Raise funds and compete with friends, family, or co-workers to support one-to-one mentoring programs that ignite the power and promise of youth. Competitive and recreational brackets keep this a fun event for all skill levels and ages!

To participate, form a team of 6 or more, register online, and raise $100/person ($75/student). After you register, you will be able to share your personal fundraising page online to reach your fundraising goal! Each team receives a minimum of 3 games, breakfast from Starbucks, lunch from Gee Gee’s Deli, and great giveaways.

#### Learn more and register at mentornj.org/volleyball

### Big Shots Golf Classic Tournament

![Big Shots Golf Classic](image)

**Monday, Oct. 3, 2022 • 10 AM-6:30 PM**

Fairmount Country Club, Chatham, NJ

Join us at Fairmount Country Club in Chatham for a day of golf for a great cause. Proceeds benefit our one-to-one mentoring programs that help children realize their potential and build their futures.

Learn more at mentornj.org/bigshots

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**Read more on our website at mentornj.org/news**

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**Together, We Are Defenders of Potential**