

# NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2023



## LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

New year, same mission. As National Mentoring Month comes to a close, our focus remains on reaching more children through one-to-one mentoring. In order to expand our reach, we need one thing... **more volunteers.**

All it takes is a few hours each month to support a local child with your time and attention. The impact is life-changing and often rewarding for both the mentee and mentor.

In this newsletter you'll read about the new experiences that Little Brother Jason has had with his Big Brother Edmund, and about the positive role model Little Sister Leylani has found in Big Sister Tara. Apply to be a Big today, and in no time will be you making a big difference, too.

To all our current and alumni Bigs, thank you! We look forward to celebrating your impact all year long and welcoming a new wave of volunteers in 2023.

Sincerely,

William Salcedo  
Executive Director

## MATCH HIGHLIGHT: CLICKED FROM THE START!

Big Sister Tara and Little Sister Leylani have been matched for almost a year and half. At their one year mark, Leylani was asked what she likes about her time with Tara and she excitedly shared, "I like everything about it! We have so much fun together." They've been to an aquarium, the movies, Liberty Science Center, pumpkin picking and even to Brighton Asylum! One of their recent outings included attending a NY Jets game and receiving what Tara called "VIP treatment."



She said it was one of her favorite outings. Leylani's mom, Gabrielle, has expressed appreciation for the time Tara gives as a volunteer in the program, "I feel like she is a good person and a good role model." Both Leylani and Tara have said they "clicked" from the very beginning. BBBS looks forward to seeing this match continue to thrive during their time together!

**Big Brothers Big Sisters.**  
OF COASTAL & NORTHERN NEW JERSEY

# BOWL

For Kids' Sake

March 2023

Dates and locations open for registration now at [mentornj.org/bowl](http://mentornj.org/bowl)

**Our Mission Partners** support the fundraising efforts, mission, and vision of the agency throughout the year.





## Youth Spotlight: New Experiences, New Fun!

Little Brother Jason and Big Brother Edmund were recently matched and they've already experienced so many new things! They attended a Jets game (on a freezing cold day!), tried out vintage video games and pinball machines, attended a Seton Hall basketball game, and together they've also tried a lot of new foods. Jason shared with BBBS that he believes Edmund is a great role model because "he is funny, cool, and has a lot of life experience which he shares with me. I wouldn't change anything about our match."



## The BIG Wait

RJ is a smart 8th grader who loves learning and is known to hold his own in adult conversations. He recently joined the local rec basketball league though his main interests are history, learning about the world, visiting museums and playing video games. He's one of five siblings and is looking forward to spending time with a Big Brother who shares his interests and will also want to shoot hoops, go bowling, and visit a museum with him.

## Happy Anniversary to our January Matches!

### 10 Years

Big Sister Diane and Little Sister Alexis

### 8 Years

Big Sister Sonia and Little Sister Kimberly

Big Sister Inga and Little Sister Anastasia

### 7 Years

Big Brother Thomas and Little Brother Jake

### 6 Years

Big Brother Taimoor and Little Brother Julien

Big Sister Lauren and Little Sister Jocelyn

### 5 Years

Big Brother Robert and Little Brother Jose

### 4 Years

Big Brother Rudy and Little Brother Adien

### 3 Years

Big Sister Tiffany and Little Sister Adrianna

Big Brother Doug and Little Brother Izear

### 1 Year

Big Brother Dean and Little Brother Akiva

Big Sister Mary and Little Brother Lorenzo

Big Sister Carolee and Little Brother Dylan

Big Sister Jennifer and Little Brother Benjamin

Big Sister Elyse and Little Sister Sha'Nylah

Big Brother Benjamin and Little Brother Christian

Big Brother Joseph and Little Brother Jaden



## CARES Corner!



Big Sister Big Sister Angela and Little Sister Siyana attended Disney on Ice at the Prudential Center this month!



A few matches attended the NFL's Inspire Change x Shoe Surgeon event in NYC. They each designed their own NFL helmets to take home! Everyone had a blast releasing their creativity!

