



Big Brothers Big Sisters

Little Moments. Big Magic.™

Quickfacts

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF MONMOUTH COUNTY, INC.

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OUR MISSION is to make a positive difference in the lives of children who are facing emotional, social and academic challenges. Through professionally supported relationships with a caring adult, Big Brothers Big Sisters assists the children in achieving their highest potential as they grow to become confident, competent and caring individuals.

HISTORY: We trace our local roots to a Monmouth County resident, Curtis Colby, who befriended a boy, Joey, whose father had died. Curtis spent time with Joey as a volunteer. He realized the positive impact his one-to-one relationship had on Joey. Joey had a younger brother who also needed an adult man in his life. Curtis contacted the Monmouth County Division of Social Services and with their support and his leadership, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Monmouth County was founded in 1976.

SOBERING STATS:

Our work is more important than ever. These statistics tell you why:

Cost of matching a child with a Big Brother or Sister:	\$2,000
Cost of keeping a child in Youth Detention for one year:	\$40,000
Percentage of our "Littles" who graduated to the next grade	100
Percentage of our "Littles" who were involved with drugs	0%
Percentage of inner city kids who join gangs due to lack of family support:	85%

CURRENT PROGRAMS & SERVICES:

Community-Based Programs ~ (4-6 hours per month)

- ❖ **One-To-One** is where an adult is matched with a child. The adult volunteer ("Big") shares an activity with the child ("Little").
- ❖ **Couples** can be placed in a match together with a little brother. The couple makes the same commitment as in the One-To-One Match.

An adult volunteer is thoroughly screened and this includes a DMV check, criminal background check, three references, office interview, home interview and pre-match training. Each "Big"/"Little" match agrees to make a time commitment of seeing each other either weekly or bi-weekly.

Site-Based Programs ~ (3 hours per month)

A site-based program is held at a specific worksite location where the employee and child see each other biweekly for scheduled program activities. As an example, Project Venture is a partnership between BBBS, NJ Natural Gas Company and Asbury Park Middle School. This program is run during the school year. The students are transported to the worksite to meet with their employee volunteer and work on projects.

School-Based Programs ~ (6 hours per month)

BBBS has a school-based mentoring program for girls and boys, which matches young girls and boys with a volunteer Big Brother or Sister for 1½ hours each week for the school year. Our program objectives are to: increase academic performance, decrease or eliminate delinquent behavior at home, school and community, decrease drug and/or alcohol use, and increase self-esteem and self-concept. Studies have shown that mentoring works. Decide today to make a difference in the lives of our girls and boys. Become a Big Brother or Big Sister.

The Kids' Club ~ (3 hours per month)

The Kids' Club is a child's first level of involvement with BBBS. While awaiting their placement with a "Big," children are able to participate in activities as soon as they are accepted into our program. The Kids' Club provides a monthly activity that is recreational, educational or a community service project, such as the annual Pool Party, Back to School event and Beach Sweep. The Kids' Club also sends a number of children to both day and overnight camp each summer and provides services such as tickets to sporting and cultural events, food, gifts and school supplies for families in our program. Adults can volunteer for the Kids' Club and provide transportation and supervision to a child at one of our monthly activities. This commitment is approximately 3-4 hours per month and is flexible. Students who are at least 16 years of age can volunteer to help at a Kids' Club activity. School groups, businesses and organizations can sponsor a Kids' Club activity at their location or in a public place such as a bowling alley or ice rink.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Bowl For Kids' Sake

Our wintertime event for people of all ages. Teams collect pledges and donations and then bowl at participating alleys. Corporate, school and club teams welcomed as well as individuals.

Gourmet Food and Wine Tasting

Come and taste delectable cuisine from Monmouth County's best restaurants. Always enjoyable, this event includes a silent auction and some of the best wine and food you'll taste all year!

Casino Night

Fun! Prizes! Auction Items! Casino Night will be held on Thursday, June 11, 2009, at the famous Asbury Park Convention Hall.

Annual Gala

This year is our 11th **Annual Matching Smiles Gala "Disco Ball"** which will be held on Friday, October 16, 2009. This exciting fundraising event includes dinner, dancing, silent and live auctions and plenty of surprises. Our guests not only have a great time, they know they've helped do good in Monmouth County after hearing the heartwarming testimonials from our "Bigs" and "Littles" in the evening's program.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for all our fundraising events!

SUPPORTING THE PROGRAMS & SERVICES:

Big Brothers Big Sisters is a private, non-profit 501©3 organization. We do not charge a fee to the children or parents for our services. A volunteer Board of Trustees provides effective governance and support to the organization. Our revenue is generated through: private donations, grants, planned gifts and special events.

Please call us today for additional information regarding any of our programs.

*"Our work is as elementary as putting a caring adult into the life of a child,
and as essential as putting hope into a child's future!"*