

## Winter 2020 Newsletter

### Here's to a great 2019! And an even better 2020!

As we ring in 2020, all of us here at Big Brothers Big Sisters want to thank you for a wonderful 2019! Because of your volunteer and financial support, we were able to serve 365 children from Westchester and Southern Putnam Counties in 2019:

- We made 70 new matches this past year, with amazing mentors committed to our vision that all youth achieve their full potential.



- All of our high school seniors graduated last year, and have gone on to study at SUNY Binghamton, SUNY Cortland, SUNY Polytechnic Institute (Utica), John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Skidmore College, the University of Vermont, Westchester Community College and BOCES.

- For the first time, our chapter held a "Bowl for Kids' Sake" event – a traditional favorite of Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. We had a blast, made some money for our programs, and are grateful to our sponsors: PepsiCo Beverages, GDC, Atlantic Westchester and our incredible Advisory Council.



· We had 235 program children, their families and their Bigs attend our Summer Games and BBQ, despite the record-setting 100-degree heat. Thank you to Living Word Christian Church in White Plains for again supplying our children with such awesome back-to-school backpacks and supplies!



· Eight rising high school seniors participated in our summer internship program. Thanks to Pinnacle Prep's SAT tutors, our students finished the summer ready and eager to apply to college. Several generous foundations helped us underwrite SAT testing and college application fees for every applicant who needed financial help.



· We had several wonderful events designed to engage children on our waitlist with "Bigs for a Day". By far, our favorites were Rye Playland with Goldman Sachs and Bingo night with volunteers from Morgan Stanley and Westmed!



· In August, Lord & Taylor in Eastchester treated all of our Littles to a wonderful back-to-school breakfast and shopping morning with their Bigs, that included generous gift cards for the children in our program and even many of their siblings.



· Our Next Big Thing fundraiser in October was a smashing success and we were proud to honor longtime Advisory Council member (and two-time Big Sister) Debbie Linder as our 2019 Big of the Year. Mark your calendars NOW for the *next* Next Big Thing to be held on November 7, 2020!



· Once again, California Closets promoted our Big Brothers Big Sisters clothing donation program by giving a credit to their customers in the months of November and December when they donated clothing to us. More than 4,000 pounds were collected. Thank you California Closets!



## CALIFORNIA CLOSETS®

· Thanks to the generosity of so many in our community, Thanksgiving was really special for the 59 Littles and their families who received Thanksgiving-in-a-Box meals with all the trimmings from our parent organization, Family Services of Westchester.

· Our December festivities included a magical holiday party for 284 children and their families, held at Rye Country Day School. That very special afternoon included activities and craft tables staffed by volunteers, a delicious hot lunch and wrapped gifts for every child, thanks to donations and time from MBIA, Gina DeCrescenzo, P.C. Education Attorneys and her family, Mastercard, Starbucks of Scarsdale, and many generous individuals.

Barnes & Noble in Yonkers donated enough books for our holiday reading table that every child and family member could choose multiple books to carry them through the winter months ahead with the gift of learning and knowledge!



· Accounting and financial advisory firm, Citrin Cooperman, donated 50 brand-new winter coats to our Littles, teaming with the Siemans Healthineers who donated hats and gloves, and Bombas who donated cozy cushioned socks to all of our children and their families.



So as we kick off the New Year and a new decade ahead, we thank you again for your incredible level of past support.

We invite you to join us in becoming even more involved with our mentoring programs, fundraising events and Advisory Council committees in 2020!

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**Get Involved. Make a  
Difference.**

