

TEMPORARY PROGRAM CHANGES & HOW MATCHES CAN STAY CONNECTED

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Milwaukee (BBBS) is committed to the safety and well-being of our youth, families, volunteers, staff, and community. Therefore, we will follow the guidance of public health officials during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Community-based Mentoring: Effective April 15, 2021, we updated our program guidelines to allow in-person outings that follow the recommendations provided below.

Recognizing each relationship is different, and that the home lives and professional exposures faced by each match vary, we developed "Safe In-Person Match Outings during COVID-19 Guidelines" that respect the comfort of our matches, permit in-person match outings when deemed safe, stress the importance of constant and transparent communication among match participants, comply with CDC guidelines, and permit mentoring pairs to:

- 1. Continue exclusive virtual contact until both parties feel safe to pursue in-person contact
- 2. Permit matches that are ready to meet in-person to move back and forth between virtual and face-to-face contact at any time

View in-person meeting guidelines.

Mentor2.0: Our monthly events will be held via Zoom for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. We encourage pairs to communicate via MatchConnect, our new online communication platform. For more information or to discuss alternative ways to connect, please contact your mentor2.0 Coordinator.

School-based Mentoring Program: Weekly meetings are being held via Zoom. Matches also have the option to message via MatchConnect, our new online communication platform. For more information or to discuss alternative ways to connect please contact your School-based Coordinator or Match Support Specialist.

BBBS Staff Support: The Big's role as a caring adult in their Little's life is as important as ever. Your Match Support Specialist or Coordinator will help you adjust your match relationship and will provide tips and suggestions for staying connected during this time. We are here to help with any questions or concerns you have. In addition, our 24/7 Emergency Line (414-831-4589) continues to be available for any program participants who have an emergency. Click here for staff contact info.