

BIG NEWS:

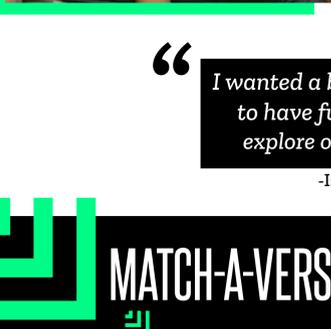
March is MATCH Madness!

Welcome to our new **BIG NEWS** newsletter for all Bigs/Mentees and Families. Happy March!

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform, inspire and improve our communication. We'd love your feedback, so at the end of this newsletter there is a link to a short questionnaire. If you complete the survey, you will be entered into a drawing for a \$25 Amazon Gift Card!

Not sure who to contact? Click [here](#) to find your support staff or email bbbs@bbbsmilwaukee.org and we will get you connected!

MATCH SPOTLIGHT



Twelve-year old Issac felt something was missing in his life. "I wanted a bigger brother to have fun with and explore other places," he said. Issac found exactly what he was looking for when his dad, Jesus, enrolled him in Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Issac was matched with his mentor Big Brother Michael in January of 2021, and the two have formed a close bond in a short period of time. They typically meet every week, and since they live near each other, it's convenient for them to coordinate activities or spontaneous hangouts.

"I wanted a bigger brother to have fun with and explore other places"
-Issac, Little Brother

MATCH-A-VERSARIES

1 YEAR

Adam + D'Angelis
Alexis + Denae
Charles + Elijah
Collin + Fernando
Delaney + Xyianna
Der + Kayley
Jenna + Aria
Kacey + Kaydelee
Karen + Shainayah
Kathryn + Antanija
Katie + Cyprus
Katie + Kaylee
Michael + Masyn
Shawnette + Karissa
Tyler + Sebastian
Zachary + Elijah

2 YEARS

Abigail + Bella
Anne + Zyonna
Faiza + Noelle
Jodell + Lourdes

3 YEARS

Andrew + Jacob
Aryanna + Zariauna
Jack + Jaden
Kerry + Jessalyn
Maggie + Kayla
Margaret + Kayden
Taylor + Janina
Trevor + Travion

4 YEARS

Anna, Angel + Chase
Laura + Somaya
Margaret + My'Cricia
Stephanie + Liz

5 YEARS

Greg, Heidi + DJ
Nick + Alex
Vonne + Marissa

6 YEARS

Lennett + Vivyana

7 YEARS

Angela + Courtney
Bridget + Jasmine
Seth + Christopher

8 YEARS

Kate + Nyja

MATCH MAGIC

NEW MATCHES IN JANUARY & FEBRUARY

Amyah + Neva
Andrew + Cody
Celia + Chloe
Chloe + Ré'yelle
Danika, John + Derrick
Eddie + Saul
Edward + Dariel
Heather + Lily
Isaac + Kameron
Jamie + Azlynn
Kayla + Mia
Kellie + Myajaih
Lauren + Tahlia
Lisa + Savannah

MacKenzie + Italy
Michaela + Milaya
Mitchell + William
Nicholas + Javier
Nikita + Jaquaisa
Oliver + Michael
Peter + D'undra
Samantha + Dra'Aonna
Serena + Sydney
Shain + Yanalise
Tou + Angel
Travis + Ricardo
Trinity + JaNadia

PARENT/GUARDIAN CORNER

We are forming a **Parent Advisory Group** and want to invite you to join. The group will meet quarterly based on member's availability. We know that parents are an important part of a match's success, and would like our parents/guardians input as we plan Parent Engagement Events. Our goal is to identify meaningful experiences, resources, and new ideas to improve these events. If interested, please contact kmiller@bbbsmilwaukee.org by March 18th. We look forward to enhancing our parent engagement efforts.

Did You Know?

BBBS Programs:
Did you know we have three distinct programs? Each is unique to the children we serve and our volunteer's interests and availability. All of our programs offer professional match support by our staff as well as training for our volunteers that focuses on child safety.

The Community-Based Program

is our one-to-one mentoring option where children and volunteer mentors meet 2-4 times per month throughout the Metro Milwaukee community, and spend time together engaged in activities they choose based on mutual interest.

We provide planned activities called **REACH** that are fun, free and focus on **Recreation, Education & Careers, Arts & Culture, Civic Engagement and Health & Fitness.**

Save the Date: Saturday, April 23; 10 am Parent Connection Series: Family Day at the Museum; Milwaukee Public Museum. Additional details and formal invitation to follow!



COMMUNITY-BASED

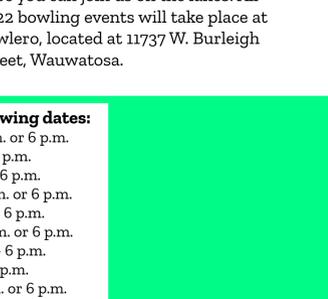
REACH is Fun with a Purpose. Check out March activities [here!](#)

If the registration is closed, please email bbbs@bbbsmilwaukee.org to be added to the wait list. *Please be sure to refresh your browser to make sure you are seeing the most up-to-date content.

SCHOOL-BASED

We are currently in 11 local schools: Milwaukee County: Cass Street, Catholic East, Escuela Vieau, Forest Home Avenue, Hartford University, MacDowell Mentor, Mary McLeod Bethune and Maryland Avenue Montessori and our Waukesha County schools include: Hadfield, Les Paul and Whittier.

The majority of our volunteers are from our collegiate partners: UWM, Marquette and Carroll University.



MENTOR 2.0

Mentor2.0 serves high school students at Veritas, Tenor, MacDowell and Milwaukee Academy of Science. The volunteers meet (virtually or in-person) once a month with their mentee and communicate weekly on a secure messaging platform. In addition, BBBS staff teaches a specific curriculum weekly that helps guide match conversations. The focus of the curriculum is on life skills as well as career and college readiness.

BOWL FOR KID'S SAKE

Bowl For Kid's Sake is one of our signature fundraising events at Big Brothers Big Sisters and is a lot of fun. Would you like to bowl with your little or form a team? Not a bowler? You can also help us raise money by becoming a Peer to Peer Fundraiser. Visit our site [here](#) to get started. Using social media makes raising money easy. And we will help you get set up.

For Community-based matches and Site-Plus matches, if you raise a minimum of \$100, you and your Little can choose your date to bowl. This will include two games of bowling, shoes, pizza, soda, lane games and prizes! We hope you can join us on the lanes! All 2022 bowling events will take place at Bowlero, located at 11737 W. Burleigh Street, Wauwatosa.

Choose one of the following dates:

- Tuesday, April 5 - 2 p.m. or 6 p.m.
- Friday, April 8 - 6 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 12 - 6 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 19 - 2 p.m. or 6 p.m.
- Thursday, April 21 - 6 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 26 - 2 p.m. or 6 p.m.
- Thursday, April 28 - 6 p.m.
- Friday, May 6 - 6 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 10, 2 p.m. or 6 p.m.
- Friday, May 13 - 6 p.m.
- Thursday, May 19 - 6 p.m.

To get started, either register online: bbbsmilwaukee.org/BFKS2022 or contact Special Events Coordinator Nancy Bong at (414) 831-4580 or email: nbong@bbbsmilwaukee.org

The Big Advisory Group (BAG) is helping BBBS staff with outreach, recruitment and marketing.

Recently revamped, we are grateful for the Bigs that have given additional time to the agency with their expertise, ideas and dedication.

Thank you to: Matt Arend, Keith Chmielewski, Anton Ducan, Jody Graves, Chris Faherty, Charles Green Jr., Sara Green, Carolyn Hammer, Alexis Holland, Samara Kluver, Alyssa Knight, Dr. Prapti Kuber, Robert Owdu-Mireku, Megan Pokrant, Taylor Schoenike, Vonne Skannal and Andrew Worley.



BIG ADVISORY GROUP

If you are interested in joining the Recruitment or Marketing Committee that meets bi-monthly, please contact kmiller@bbbsmilwaukee.org. We'd love to have you join, and are especially in need of representation from our School-based mentoring program.

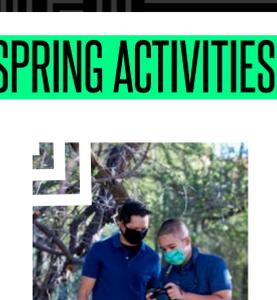


THE PODCAST INITIATIVE

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Milwaukee is excited to announce the launch of our little BIG Chats! Listen and learn how BBBS is changing lives. We highlight a new match every month so you can learn from inspiring stories of friendship and growth.

Available on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, and Spotify!

Click [here](#) for more info.



SPRING ACTIVITIES

Urban Ecology Center (Milwaukee)

Fun Places to Visit:

The Urban Ecology Center is a nonprofit organization in Milwaukee, and a strong partner with BBBS! Their mission is to educate the Milwaukee community about the environment, conservation, sustainability, and other issues related to urban ecology, as well as to preserve and protect the natural areas in the city. They offer unique experiences throughout the city to seek community engagement. Join an early morning bird walk, a morning mindfulness session, and much more!

Click [here](#) for more places to visit!



For more information, please follow this [link](#) or contact your Support Staff at BBBS.

Click [here](#) to answer our short survey!

THE POWER OF ONE.

788 N. Jefferson Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202