



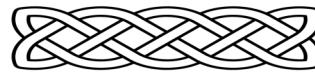
BIG News!

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Serving Brant, Brantford, Haldimand & Norfolk



The BIG Event



It happens every September as part of Big Brothers Big Sisters month: our annual "BIG event." It's an appreciation evening to recognize the efforts of our dedicated volunteers, celebrate individual and match milestones, and thank our vital community partners.

This year the "BIG event," sponsored by Ontario Power Generation was held at the beautiful "Greens at Renton" on Monday September the 27th. On hand were "Littles" and their families, "Bigs" and other volunteers, Board members, Staff,

Community Supporters and Champions, and local dignitaries who believe that our services and programs do make a big difference in our community. Among those celebrated were five Lena Smith Scholarship Recipients: Samantha D. Jennifer L. Laird S. Allisa Mitchell, and Michael S.

We were fortunate to have three special guest speakers: Norfolk County Mayor Dennis Travale who shared why he decided to get involved in our "Bowl For Kids Sake", Susan Thurston: Senior Communications Ad-

visor with OPG Nanticoke, who shared the importance of Corporate Sponsorship, and Big Brother Manny Munir, who shared his personal story.

Thank You for all your help over the past year, we look forward to serving the community in the upcoming year, hope to create new friendships and relationships, and are excited to continue growing with our established partners and supporters. Keep spreading the word about Big Brothers Big Sisters.

United, We Stand...

With Fall comes cooler temperatures, leaves changing colours, and cozy sweaters...

Here's something you can do to feel warm and fuzzy: contribute to your local United Way. Big Brothers Big Sisters serving Brant, Brantford, Haldimand, and Norfolk receives about 25% of our total funding from the Haldimand Norfolk United Way and the Brant

United Way. United Way is helping to create real, lasting change every single day in our communities.

While the local scenery is changing to include more autumn colours like yellow, orange, and brown - we would love to see a lot of RED in those fundraising barometers tracking donations.



United Way

The more RED, the closer the local United Way agencies are to reaching their goals.

To make a contribution in Brant, call 519-752-7848 or stop by their Brant Avenue office.

In Haldimand Norfolk call 519-426-5660, or visit the Kent Street North office in Simcoe.



Fall / Winter 2010 Issue

Of Special Interest:

- ☺ Local Agency Gets a Very Important Certificate
- ☺ Who's That Answering the Phone?
- ☺ Upcoming Events
- ☺ Co-op Students in Brant, Brantford, Haldimand & Norfolk
- ☺ Staffing Changes

Inside This Issue:

Fun at the Norfolk County Fair and Horse Show	2
New Matches & Match Anniversaries	2
Upcoming Events	3
Local Agency Receives Accreditation	3
A Familiar Voice	3
From Your Service Delivery Team	4-5
So Long, Good Luck, You'll be Missed	5
Join us on Facebook & Twitter	6
Contact Information	6
Our Core Values	6

Fun at the Norfolk County Fair and Horse Show!



One of our favourite things about the Fall is the Norfolk County Fair and Horse Show: the rides, the shows, the displays, the competitions, the food - it's all fantastic.

The best part has to be the fact that the staff and volunteers at the Norfolk County Fair and Horse Show are very good friends to Big Brothers Big Sisters. Thanks to General Manager **Karen Matthews** ten pairs of Bigs &

Littles had the chance to go to the Fair.

Another BIG Thanks to **Barber Veri: Communicate** - they were kind enough to lend us some space at their booth, on Fri-

day so that staff and volunteers could spend the day talking to Fairgoers about our programs and need for volunteers. We had a lot of fun and made some new connections.



BS Deb & LS Madison

A third BIG Thanks to **Orrie at the Harmony Pastry Shop and Café** on highway 24 - he donated a basket full of tasty treats and a gift certificate for our free draw at the Fair. Next time

you stop by the Harmony for a coffee and a treat tell Orrie "Thanks" for supporting Big Brothers Big Sisters serving Brant, Brantford, Haldimand and Norfolk.

New Matches & Match Anniversaries

Match Anniversaries:

- April:** Colin & Justin - 1 year
Roxanne & Ashley - 3 years
JP & Jessica - 4 years
- May:** Matt & Josh - 1 year
Daniel & Michael - 1 year
Michael & Cedeno - 1 year
LeeAnn & Georgea - 1 year
- June:** Alicia & Alicia - 1 year
Karl & Bradley - 1 year
Tim & Justin - 1 year
Laura & Kalista - 1 year
Jennifer & Tia - 5 years
- July:** Nick & Laird - 1 year
Carla & Jade - 1 year
Kim & Joanne - 1 year

- Leeroy & Michael - 3 years
Keri & Angel - 6 years

- August:** Karen & Ryan - 1 year
Ron & Kurtis - 1 year
Jessica & Lauren - 1 year

- October:** Darren & Shiloh - 1 year
Dale & Savanna - 1 year
Melissa & Alyssa - 1 year
Braden & Devon - 2 years
John & Matthew - 2 years
Renee & Savannah - 4 years

- November:** Manny & Jeremy - 1 year
Tasha & Deanna - 1 year
Rob & Carlin - 1 year
Josh & Zachary - 2 years
Chloe & Alicia - 4 years



New Traditional Matches:

- May:** Ashley Y. & Holli M.
Chris K. & Darby F.
- June:** Steve M. & Jack S.
- October:** Kevin M & Aaron M
Deb C & Madison A

From Your Service Delivery Team...

Ashley Cordier-Mentor Coordinator

Can you all believe it's been a year already!? I want to welcome all of the new Volunteers, Little's and their families to the agency! We are continuing to grow as an agency and it is always rewarding to see new matches made and progress! Thank you all for your patience and understanding during the staff transitions throughout the summer.

I'd like to point out that it is important to remember that whatever you do as a match doesn't have to be expensive. A match should be focused on the memories you make and the time you share together. Are you looking for suggestions or ideas on

activities? During this fall/winter season, try doing things like baking, nature walks through a trail, bowling (use your bowling card to get a discount, if you do not have one yet, contact the agency), crafts, scrapbooking, create your very own Guinness Book of Records while competing against one another, etc. I am always here to help if you would like some suggestions! Remember, above all, have fun and stay safe!

To all the unmatched Big's and Little's: I want to remind you that I have not forgotten you and that I am working diligently to match you all suitably. If you know anyone who



Anna, Ashley & Hendriette:

would be interested in becoming a Big Brother, pass along the message that we are in need! If you have any questions, feel free to call me!

Welcome Hendriette Hoekert-In School Mentor Coordinator

Hello!! I am so excited to be part of the Big Brothers Big Sisters Team and working with so many wonderful volunteers in our community. My name is Hendriette and I've recently come on board as the In - School Mentor Coordinator. I think the program is right up my alley. I love working with kids and I like having fun!! And that pretty much describes the whole program.

One of my favourite things to do in my spare time is decorate cakes. I am going to let you all in on a great activity you can do with your kids during your hour at school. Cake decorating with fondant!! Here's the recipe for fondant:

- 2 cups icing sugar
- 2 cups marshmallows
- 1 drop of water

Put the marshmallows and water in a microwave safe dish and heat for one minute. Stir and add the icing sugar (you may need to add more than two cups). It's just like play - dough when you're all done!! It's so easy, fun and tastes yummy. Add food colouring to make a wild design and stick it to your cake (the cake should have regular icing on it to make the fondant stick).

Happy decorating!!

Now, back to my job. While all this is quite new to me I am thrilled to see the growth that is occurring since I've come on board. In the span of one month we've renewed or set up over 30 matches!! That speaks to the commitment of all our volunteers. And this number is growing daily. I've had an opportunity to meet several

Little's over the course of the past month and they are all very eager to start with their volunteers. It's quite refreshing to see the program leave such a positive and lasting impact on the kids, and it's because of the volunteers. I am looking forward to meeting all of you and please call me any time to chat about how your match is going. I have big dreams for the In - School program. I have schools all over Haldimand, Norfolk, Brantford and Brant asking if we have more volunteers that could work with some of their students. So spread the word!!

Thank you so much for the warm welcome to the Big Brothers Big Sisters world and I am looking forward to creating many wonderful memories with you.

Anna Reu-Senior Caseworker

Lots of staff changes have resulted over the summer months, and we thank each of you for your patience as we underwent these changes.

We bid a fond farewell to Sarah Rondeau - Mentor Coordinator, and to Diane Corbett - In-School Mentor Coordinator. We warmly welcome our returning Mentor Coordinator, Ashley Cordier. As well, we welcome our new In-School Mentor Coordinator, Hendriette Hoekert.

For the first high school semester, we have co-op students at each of the counties: In Haldimand we have Jade Kiefer from Cayuga Secondary School; In Norfolk we have Stephanie Braga from Holy Trinity Catholic High School; In Brantford we have Thomas McArthur from Brantford Collegiate Institute, Rick Campbell from Assumption College, and Jessica Koury from W. Ross Macdonald School. Each of these students are busy preparing for their In-School Mentoring at an elementary school. As well Thomas and Rick will be co-facilitating a Game On program at an elementary school.

Speaking of Game On, last year our agency piloted Boys Mentoring Group, which we called Go Guys. This group has now been named Game On. Game On is group programming for boys aged 11-14 years, mentored by young male mentors.

Game On - Eat Smart, Play Smart, Live Smart!



Go Girls is gearing up to begin again. This group programming is for girls aged 11-14 years, mentored by young female mentors. Go Girls - Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds!

NEEDED... young male & female mentors, aged 18-30 years, to facilitate these great groups.

We are very fortunate this fall to welcome four Nipissing University students volunteering at our Brantford location. These students will be completing their required hours for their 4th year practicum placements as part of their Concurrent Education requirements. These volunteers will be acting as an In-School Mentor, a Go Girls Mentor, and with our Brantford Committee. Welcome to Claire Watton, Carolyn Jonkman, Jennifer Liska, and Sheryl Ball!

Also this year, we welcome a few nursing students from our area, to complete their required hours during their 1st and 2nd year through the McMaster Mohawk Conestoga BScN Program. Their roles will be as an In-School Mentor with the potential of Go Girls and Game On Mentoring.

Enjoy the beauty of the fall and thanks for all you give !!!

So Long, Good Luck, You'll Be Missed



She spent the better part of a year with us while Ashley was on maternity leave, now we are happy to announce that... former Mentor Coordinator Sarah Rondeau & husband Mike have a new baby boy: his name is Henry.

Congrats & Good Luck with the new home up north!

If anything you know her from the Bowl For Kids... Carrie Stratford has decided it's time to focus on her family. Carrie has decided to work from home — but I'm sure we'll still see her around.

Luke Hancock was on loan to us thanks to a government grant. He was great helping with Fundraising and Marketing. We're happy to announce Luke got on full-time at Habitat for Humanity in Guelph.

Congratulations are also in order for former In-School Mentor Coordinator Diane Corbett. Diane is the new Supervisor of the Dunnville YWCA!

Summer is over, summer student Sarah Roberts is back to class. You may remember Sarah if you stopped by the Simcoe office at all over the summer months.



Your BBBS Team

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Senior Caseworker
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Mentor Coordinator
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ISM Coordinator
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Fundraising & Office Assistant
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Stay Connected

Here are the different ways you can stay connected to Big Brothers Big Sisters serving Brant, Brantford, Haldimand, and Norfolk

Visit our website for the latest news and events
www.bbbshn.ca



Check-us out on Facebook



Follow us on Twitter

And don't forget... tell your friends to join, send us BBBS articles you found in the paper, and e-mail pictures of Bigs & Littles having fun!

Question? Feedback? Idea?

Drop by the office, give us a call, or send us an e-mail

Main Administrative Office

89 Culver St.
Simcoe, ON N3Y 2V5
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Toll Free: 1-800-268-8784
general e-mail: office@bbbshn.ca

In Brantford

30 Brant Ave., Lower
(519) 759-3222

In Caledonia

38 Orkney St. W.

In Dunnville

208 Broad St. E.

Our Core Values

Our Vision Statement

Every child who needs a mentor, has a mentor.

Our Mission

We commit to Canada's young people that we will be leaders in providing them with the highest quality, volunteer based mentoring programs.

Program Philosophy

Children who spend time with a mentor gain confidence, acquire new skills & competencies, and develop an enhanced capacity to care for others. Mentors experience a sense of discovery & enjoyment as they see the world of possibility open up through a child's eye.



We Believe...

- ⇒ The healthy development of every child is enhanced by positive, nurturing, mentoring relationships.
- ⇒ In working with others to promote healthy & safe environments for children
- ⇒ That collaboration between staff & volunteers in service delivery is our strength
- ⇒ That all BBBS programs must maintain the highest standards to ensure positive outcomes for the children & their families.