



BIG News!

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Serving Brant, Brantford, Haldimand & Norfolk

Bowl for Kids Sake

This year we were able to put together our most successful Bowl for Kids Sake Campaign to date & we couldn't do it without the support of our community & most of all, all of the bowler's who go out to collect pledges on behalf of the agency.



Wendy's "Do You Believe..."
2010 Bowl for Kids Sake
Campaign

YOUR SUPPORT HELPED US RAISE:

\$75, 904.00

Bowl For Kids Sake (BFKS) is Big Brothers Big Sisters serving Brant, Brantford, Haldimand & Norfolk's signature fundraising campaign, culminating in bowling events across Brantford, Brant, Haldi-

mand & Norfolk counties. Friends, family, co-workers, local businesses, politicians and media put teams together and recruit donors to support their team. Then the teams attend a local bowling centre to bowl and have fun in support of mentoring services for local children and youth.

The agency continues to see a high demand for child and youth mentoring in Brant, Brantford, Haldimand and Norfolk. More than 50 children and teenagers are on waiting lists for a Big Brother or Big Sister and some wait as long as two years for a match.

Funds raised are absolutely critical to connecting children and youth in need with mentors that will help them learn, grow and succeed. Every child in Brant, Brantford, Haldimand and Norfolk who needs a Big Brother or Big Sister should have one, and that is the goal of *Bowl for Kids' Sake*. The *Bowl For Kids Sake* campaign is critical to driving local funds towards local kids in need of a mentoring relationship.



Spring 2010

Of Special Interest

- ☺ 27th AGM
- ☺ 2010 Board of Directors
- ☺ Bowl for Kids Sake Sponsors
- ☺ Insert for Upcoming Events
- ☺ Jump Start Information

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A Woman of Excellence

The dictionary describes excellence as:

1. the quality of being excellent
2. an excellent or valuable quality

We are surrounded by many people of excellence here at Big Brothers Big Sisters; our Board of Directors, Volunteers, Staff and especially "our kids". In our midst there is a Woman of Excellence, who was recognized as

being just that at the Soroptimist "Women of Excellence" Awards, Patti O'Reilly,



our Executive Director. Patti leads by example and many people here find her enthusi-

asm and dedication both inspiring and motivating. As part of the Big Brothers Big Sisters movement, Patti has worked hard to build authentic relationships with the employees, partners and communities. Her efforts have created a position of opportunity for the communities in which she serves and more importantly the children, youth and families she touches on a daily basis.

WAY TO GO PATTI!!

The 27th Annual General Meeting

Big Brothers Big Sisters serving Brant, Brantford, Haldimand, Norfolk held their 27th Annual General Meeting in Waterford at the Old Town Hall: parents, volunteers, and community partners were invited to take part in the meeting which highlighted successes and challenges of the past year and focused on the obstacles and objectives ahead in 2010.

One of the important items on the agenda was the Presidents Report in which Renee VanderHarst thanked all of those who make the agency so successful in delivering high quality mentor based pro-

grams to the youth of our community – especially during such tough economic times. “Thank You to our volunteers, community partners, and amazing staff. Without their hard work, dedication, and passion we wouldn't have any success stories to share in the first place. I would like to especially thank the woman behind it all - our exceptional Executive Director, Patti O'Reilly!”

Under her leadership the local BBBS chapter continues to grow and evolve. Last year the local chapter was successful in expending service into the Brant Brant-

ford area. Also in 2009 Patti's individual excellence as an Executive Director was recognized at the national convention: she received the “*President's Commendation*” for “*exceptional contribution through personal effort and ability to develop, grow, and sustain BBBS programs.*” It's the single highest honour any staff member can receive from BBBS of Canada, and she received the honour during her 20th year with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Haldimand Norfolk.

Our Staff/Board Retreat...Planning for Success at BBBS

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Brant, Brantford, Haldimand, and Norfolk is working hard to continue growing to better serve our communities. The Board of Directors and Staff have gathered under the guidance of Colleen Miller of Colleen E. Miller Enterprises Inc. to work towards implementing a Strategic Plan that will include Business Plans for both Haldimand Norfolk & Brant/Brantford as well as a Marketing Plan to continue to move forward in their vision that

“every child who needs a mentor has a mentor.”

Critical Issues have been identified and the Board and Staff are working diligently to ensure the success of the mentoring programs serving the children/youth of Brant, Brantford, Haldimand & Norfolk. Key issues revolve around financial needs, recruitment & retention of volunteers, marketing & community awareness as well as the need of technical support and equipment.

The agency will be addressing each issue and developing strategies and goals to ensure that our mentoring programs will continue within our communities and be provided with the highest of quality.

We believe that the 10% of our population that is 100% of our future, our kids, deserve the best that we have and we commit to them that we will be leaders in providing them with the highest quality, volunteer based mentoring programs.



2010 Board of Directors

Introducing the 2010
Board of Directors:

President

Renee VanderHarst

Vice President

Barry Cruickshanks

Secretary/Treasurer

Juanita Wagner

Board Development Officer

Lynne Henson

Directors

Brian Geffros

Darrell MacInnis

Jordan Moore

Karen Reynolds

Keith Saunders

Lesley Lewis

Trevor Durrant

We would also like to take this time
to thank several Board Members who

made an exceptional contribution to
the children of our community. They
embraced our mission and helped us
achieve our goals.

Jenica Leigh

Jenn Gates

Deanna Davidson

Carrie Westbrook

You may no longer be on the Board of
Directors, but we have 4 great Am-
bassadors in the community.

Thank You for Believing!!

Our 2010 BFKS Campaign Sponsors & Supporters

Title Sponsor

Wendy's

Media Sponsor

CD 98.9 FM

Agency Sponsor

Millard, Rouse &
Rosebrugh LLP
(Simcoe)

Campaign Sponsors

Reynolds Custom Machine Inc.
Arby's Restaurant
(Brantford)
Port Dover Lions

Team Sponsors

The Clark Companies
Canadian Tire (Dunnville)
Terra Firma Group Inc.

We would like to take this op-
portunity to say THANK YOU
to all of our sponsors, donors,
participants & our Board of
Directors for:

BELIEVING IN US
as we continue to
"Share a Little Magic"
with all of our "KIDS"

Lane Sponsors

BMO Nesbitt Burns

(Lesley Lewis)

BML Roofing Systems Inc.

Long Point Lioness Club

Dover Apothecary

Port Dover Kinsmen

Tri County Insurance Brokers

St. Leonards-Peter Willis
Residence

Bachmann Personal Injury
Rembos Inc.

TD Canada Trust

(Waterford, Delhi & Simcoe)

Campaign Supporters

Vittoria Lions Club

Boston Pizza (Simcoe)

Lesley Lewis & Chris Young of

BMO Nesbitt Burns

Second Ave. Printing

Sullivan Bay

Doverwood Public School

Elgin Ave. Public School

Bloomsburg Public School

Brantford Lanes

White Horse Family

Entertainment Centre

From Your Service Delivery Team

Sarah Rondeau-Mentor Coordinator

Hello Everyone!!!

Spring is here and I hope that you have all been taking advantage of this gorgeous weather we have been having by getting out and getting active. Welcome to all of our new Bigs and Littles. It is a pleasure to have you on board. I have been on board since October and have had the opportunity to either talk with everyone or meet you in person. I look forward to meeting the rest of you very soon.

I hope that all of you took advantage of the activity list I e-mailed to assist with new ideas and suggestions. Remember to talk with your Little and get their input on what they would like to do, also remembering that the match should be focused on the memories you

share together and not how much it costs.

Just a quick reminder to all matches that I am obligated by National Standards to monitor your matches on a regular basis. When I am calling to complete this if you could contact me ASAP to discuss your match.

Attention all parents and guardians with children in the Haldimand Norfolk area it is that time of the year that we are receiving support from the Jump Start Program which is in partnership with Canadian Tire. If you have a child or children that are interested in get-



Anna, Sarah & Diane

ting involved in organized sports and recreation activities and you need some support getting them involved please contact me at the office to discuss the registration process.

Please spread the word to family and friends about vol-

unteering. We have 52 Littles waiting for a Big Brother or Big Sister. If I have not said it enough thank-you to all of our Bigs for your commitment and dedication in making a difference in a child's life. Enjoy everything your match has to offer and remember to stay safe and have fun.

Diane Corbett-In School Mentor Coordinator

Our young students are learning to trust and build positive relationships. Here is a story to share with you that may be an inspiration to know that what you do matters!

Adam is a 9 year old boy who is matched to Jeff. Adam was referred by his teacher to help build his social skills and receive emotional support due to some environmental factors that are affecting his ability to learn in school. Adam is a very brave child who has had more to deal with than any 9 year old should. He presents as very tough and defends himself even if there is little or no just cause for such defence. Adam began his friendship with his Buddy Jeff in October of 2009. Jeff is always on time and enjoys playing active games,

sharing stories and doing a long term culminating type activity with incidental learning happening during this journey. One day Adam had a written test that was scheduled inadvertently during his mentoring time and was unable to attend the session. Unfortunately Jeff was unaware of the schedule change and showed up as he always does. The test did not finish in good time, therefore Jeff told the office staff that he would have to leave. As Jeff was pulling away in his car, Adam ran to the window to witness his departure and understood that the mentoring time was missed due to his test. For the very first time ever at this school Adam cried, he cried very hard, the type of cry that comes from deep in one's heart.

The secretary was very surprised at this reaction as she always knew Adam to be a "tough guy". She used this opportunity as an extension of his mentoring with Jeff, to comfort him and provide him with a Hershey's kiss and tell him that he's special. Adam learned he is worthy and loveable despite when unhappy situations happen. This learning has happened at a crucial age of development. Our wonderful mentor Jeff came back and secured these feelings with Adam upon his return and have since gone on to continue building these important relationship milestones.

"One's best success comes after their greatest disappointments" ...a quote by Henry Ward Beecher.

Anna Reu-Senior Caseworker

As another high school semester has ended and another begun, so we say a fond farewell to Clarissa from Simcoe Composite, Nicole from North Park Collegiate, and Brittany from Paris District High. We then send a warm welcome to our new co-op students - Brianne from Holy Trinity Catholic, Rachel from Delhi District Secondary, Erika from St. John's College, and Mia from Brantford Collegiate Institute.

Each of these students will be mentoring with our In-School Mentoring Program at a variety of elementary schools in Norfolk County and Brantford.

Go Girls programs have begun at Major Ballachey P.S. and West Lynn P.S. with Go Guys (AKA Boys Mentoring Program) beginning at Bloomsburg P.S. Thank you to our Mentors.

Our agency is one of the pilot agencies for the Boys Mentoring Program through our National office, and we are honored to play a role in providing another quality mentoring program. Funding for the Boys Mentoring Program is provided by the Public Health agency of Canada, and the Ontario Ministry of Health and Promotion, as well as COGECO.

Jump Start

Attention all parents and guardians it is that time of the year that we are receiving support from the Jump Start Program which is in partnership with Canadian Tire. If you have a child or children that are interested in getting involved in organized sports



and recreation activities and you need some support getting them involved please contact Sarah at the office to discuss the registration process.

New Matches & Match Anniversaries

New Traditional Matches:

November 2009

BB Rob M & LB Carlin M
BS Tasha B & LS Deanna M

December 2009

BB Jesse W & LB Treton L
BB Tyler B & LB Colin S
BB John H & LB Matthew S

January 2010

BB Doug S & LB Oren S
BS Kim C & LS Lexy S
BS Val M & LS Chantelle R

February 2010

BS Wendy C & LS Kaidan E

March

BS Stephanie B & LS Alexis P
BS Rachel M & LS Carleigh D
BS Corrie G & LS India D

April

BB Stephen B & LB Shane B

Match Anniversaries:

March

BB Chris S & Kody C- 1Year
BS Lesley L & Cassie S- 1 Year

New ISM Matches

January

Karen R. & Brayden F.
Brian G. & Mason R.
Laura H. & Elizabeth P.
Susan V. & Debra W.
Andrew L. & Dade B.

February

Cristina M. & Selaira T.
Carrie S. & Willy P.
Dan B. & Brandon E.

Big Brothers & Big Sisters

Main Administrative Office

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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're on the Web!!

www.bbbshn.ca

Our Core Values



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.

