



# Big Times

Big Brothers Big Sisters  
of the Sioux Empire



Start Something™

April 2011

Volume 9 Issue 4

## THERE IS STILL TIME TO REGISTER YOUR TEAM!

**Bowl For Kids' Sake** is a fundraiser all about having fun & raising money to help Local youth. Mentors, Friends, Families, & Businesses are invited to form teams!

- Teams consist of 5 bowlers. (All bowlers receive a t-shirt, pizza & soda, and a chance to win door prizes)
- Minimum pledges must equal \$65 per person or \$325 per team.
- Every dollar helps local youth! (see sidebar)

Register at [www.bbbsse.org](http://www.bbbsse.org)

or call 334-1632

no deposit necessary to register



This year's theme is the **Rockin' 50's**.  
so dress up as your favorite  
T-Bird or Pink Lady!

### Dates & Times

Empire Bowl

3800 S. Westport Ave.

April 7  
April 8  
April 9

3:30 p.m.

4 & 9:30 p.m.\*

9:30 p.m.\*

\*cosmic bowling

Every dollar raised

helps local youth

An average match costs \$700, including:

- Volunteer Recruitment
- Interviewing
- Criminal Background Checks
- Reference Checks
- Professional Match Support
- Match Activities
- Liability Insurance

## INSIDE

Community Calendar  
Activity Card Pick  
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**MENTOR TRAINING**  
**MONDAY, 4/11, OR**  
**THURSDAY 4/14**

All NEW BBBS volunteers must sign up for **mandatory** mentor training. Two sessions are offered: Monday, April 11, from 5:30-7:30; or Thursday, April 14, from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. You need only sign up for ONE (1) session. If you are unable to attend either session, please contact our office to set up an alternate training date.

**PLEASE RSVP!**  
Call Penny at  
334-1632 or email  
[penny@bbbsse.org](mailto:penny@bbbsse.org)

**Sioux Falls Office**  
1000 N. West Ave.  
Ste. 300  
Sioux Falls, SD

57104

Tel: 605-334-1632  
Fax: 605-271-8011

**Watertown Office**  
901 4th St. NW  
Watertown, SD

57201

Tel: 605-886-1554  
Fax: 605-882-8620

**Mitchell Office**  
520 N. Lawler St.  
Ste. 300  
Mitchell, SD

57301

Tel: 605-292-4444

We need **VOLUNTEERS** to help us raise money with the **Thunder Ball Toss** at the May 7 Sioux Falls **Storm** indoor football game!

Volunteers receive a **FREE** ticket to the game!

**Thunder... What?** Thunder Ball Toss is the point in the second quarter of the game when dozens of mini footballs are let loose, aimed at a target in the center of the arena. The ball closest to the target wins! Thunder Balls are sold for \$2 per ball or \$5 for three balls. Each ball is numbered and the name of each child throwing the ball is recorded to ensure the winner receives his or her prize.

**Why?** As the organization selling Thunder Balls, BBBS earns cash! Plus, did we mention FREE tickets to the game?!

**If you want to help:** We need 10-15 volunteers. Matches may volunteer together! Call 334-1632 or email [Melissa@bbbsse.org](mailto:Melissa@bbbsse.org) for more information.



# BBBS Monthly Event

**April 28**

**El Riad Shrine Circus**—ATTENTION children of all ages!! BBBS has a LIMITED number of circus tickets available for MATCHES ONLY (adults and children - Mentor Mom participants will receive two adult tickets) for the 7:30 p.m. performance at the Arena. To receive a coupon, which must later be redeemed for a ticket, please call BBBS as soon as possible. These tickets will go fast!

## Community Calendar

EVENTS ARE NOT AFFILIATED WITH OR ENDORSED BY BBBS

**April 1, 2, 8, & 9**

Stampede Hockey – Ice action begins at 7:05 p.m. at the Arena. BBBS matches receive FREE tickets to home games (see Activity Card for details).

**April 1**

Scavenger Hunt – Head to Rehfeld's Art and Framing, 210 S. Phillips Ave., for this fun and FREE event! All ages welcome and all participants have a chance to win a framed mini Jon Crane print, in addition to enjoying live jazz music by the Chris Borchardt Trio.

**April 1**

First Fridays - Several downtown Sioux Falls businesses host special activities and discounted prices the first Friday of every month. Check out the Washington Pavilion of Arts & Sciences for FREE admission to the science center!

**April 3**

Remedy Drive Concert – Check out this FREE public event beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Canton High School, 800 N. Main St., in Canton.

**April 5, 12, 19, & 26**

Storytime - Bring your young children to Child's Play Toys, 233 S. Phillips Ave., every Tuesday at 10 a.m. for singing and reading. Always FREE!

**April 5**

Kids' Workshop – Head to Home Depot from 9 a.m.-noon for this FREE activity for children ages 5-12 years old. This month, kids can make a wooden planter/basket.

**April 8**

Fun & Fitness Friday – Children ages 6 and younger are invited to MariCar Community Center for this FREE event beginning at 1:30 p.m. Ride around the gym on various toys, jump on inflatables, or run through the obstacle course.

**April 8**

Family Nite Out – MariCar Community Center hosts this FREE event at 6:30 p.m., featuring various activities and carnival games.

**April 9 & 23**

Build & Grow Clinics - Lowe's offers FREE kids' projects beginning at 10 a.m. Build a wooden pinball game on the 9<sup>th</sup>; and build a unique bird-house that sticks to windows so you can see the nest on the 23<sup>rd</sup>!

**April 16**

Recycled Nature Day - Join the Outdoor Campus and the Museum of Visual Materials at Sertoma Park for a FREE recycled nature craft day event. Learn how to make a variety of great crafts from items you have at home! Some crafts will be "make and take" and others will be demonstrations. For more information, call 362-2777.

**April 17**

Egg Hunt - FREE egg hunt for children up to age 10 at the Sioux Falls Convention Center. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Hunt times: Ages 1-2 @ noon; ages 3-4 @ 12:30 p.m.; ages 5-7 @ 1p.m.; and ages 8-10 @ 1:30 p.m. Enjoy entertainment by Phil Baker, see animals from the Great Plains Zoo, and get your photo taken with the Easter Bunny. No buckets please - bags will be provided. For more information, call 351-5515.

**April 21**

Kid's Activity Day – The Old Courthouse Museum invites kids to enjoy a fun and FREE learning and craft activity in which they make an item to take home. This month's theme: Spring has Sprung! Classes are 9-11:30 a.m. or 1-2:30 p.m.

**April 25**

Starlab Portable Planetarium - Discover the night sky and explore the constellations! Admission is \$1 per person ages 5 and older. Shows at 1, 2, and 3 p.m.

**April 27**

Mommy's Maternity Closet - Elegant Mommy opens their Mommy's Maternity Closet the last Wednesday of each month to women in need who can select items FREE of charge. Head to Elegant Mommy, 2109 W. 49th St., from 4-6 p.m. Please have your Medicaid card or WIC information available to present.

**April 30**

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta – Head to Falls Park between noon-7 p.m. for a FREE fiesta filled with family entertainment, concerts, food, and other fun! For more information, visit [www.cincofiesta.com](http://www.cincofiesta.com).

The **Sioux Falls Jazz & Blues Society** has graciously offered **FREE tickets** to any BBBS match for 2011 SFJB events. Find concert dates and times by going to the Jazz & Blues' web site, [www.sfjb.org/events](http://www.sfjb.org/events).

## ACTIVITY CARD PICK OF THE MONTH

### B & G Milkyway

All Sioux Falls Locations

Mentor buys 1 item, mentee gets item of equal or lesser value at 1/2 price.



## BIG THANKS

Has your match been using the Activity Card? Our programs are supported by many local businesses that provide generous discounts to BBBS matches. We appreciate their support and hope you do too! Please send a Thank You note to the businesses your match visits.

**\*\*Remember to use your Activity Card and look at the participating businesses before you go on your outing.**

# MATCH OF THE MONTH

Core BB Brian Hauger & LB Alex, *Matched September 2009*

## Big Brother Brian

*Why did you become involved in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program?* I became involved hoping to become a good role model to a child and hopefully give a child the chance to do some activities he otherwise might not have the opportunity to do.

*What do you like best about having a mentee?* I enjoy spending time with Alex and knowing I am making a difference in someone's life.

*What is your favorite activity you have done together?* My favorite activity is attending Alex's sporting events. I like watching him participate; and - win or lose - he shows the best sportsmanship I have ever seen.

*How has having a mentee helped you?* Having a mentee has given me personal satisfaction in helping someone else.

## Little Brother Alex

*What do you like best about being matched with your mentor?* Brian is very nice and kind. He takes me to all sorts of places I have never been, like sporting events. He attends my sport events and keeps in contact with me on a regular basis.

*What is your favorite activity you have done with your mentor so far?* Attending the Augustana football game. I really enjoyed that game because football is my favorite sport and my brother's Big Brother was playing (Brian also took my brother so he could see his mentor play).

*What would you say to a Little interested in Big Brothers Big Sisters?* I would tell them having a Big Brother is a lot of fun and you get to do a lot of activities that you normally wouldn't get to do. I would show them pictures of my last two birthday parties that Brian had for me. I have a great time with him.

*How do you think having a mentor has helped you?* I get to go outside and play and go places with Brian alone and not with just my mom and my brother. Brian has taught me a lot about sports and I love that! He has shown me that a true friend is there for you always and cares about what you have going on in your life.

## SAVE THE DATE

1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL  
BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS  
GOLF BENEFIT

WHERE: Prairie Green

WHEN: May 23 at Noon

Lunch provided

WHO: Team consists of 4 golfers

COST: \$1,000 per team

For more information,  
call BBBS at 334-1632.

## NEW MATCHES

NAS BS Amy Hudson & LS Carlina

NAS BS Jenny Benoy & LS Ana

NAS BS Nicole Taylor & LS Rosey

NAS BS Pat Hoff & LB Joesiah

NAS BS Brittney Wentzel & LS Illyanna

NAS BS Rebecca Anderson & LS Amaya

NAS BS Sarah Campbell & LS Alicia

NAS BS Bridgette Bernier & LS LaShawn

MM Jaye Grimm & YM Kristina

MM Monika Boyer & YM Darian

Amachi BC Calle & Jonathan Wachter  
& LB Braden

Amachi BS Charlotte Shaw & LB Tommy

Amachi BB Dirk Tedmon & LB Chala

Core BS Susan Peters & LS Makayla

Core BS Kristi Lammers & LS Becca

Core BS Kari Helling & LS Lorissa

Core BS Renee Christenson & LS Sarah

Core BB Jorge Carrillo & LB Cody

Core BS Rachel Mehrer & LS Alig

Core BB Alex Ohm & LB Billy

Core BB Jacob Hagemeyer & LB Syllis

## 1 YEAR

NAS BS Sarah Nosbush & LS Ariana

Core BB Matt Smith & LB Benton

Core BS Rebecca Wilson & LS Mariah

Core BS Whitney White & LS Autumn

Core BB Dustin Dvoracek & LB Mitchell

Core BB Chris Koopman & LB Riley

Core BB Wade Persson & LB Kohl

Core BB Daren Anderson & LB Dominik

Core BS Nancy Leibel & LS Elizabeth

Amachi BS Jorrie Hart & LS Hailey

Amachi BS Alisha Prinsen & LS Kyleigh

Amachi BB Bryan Kegler & LB Jasim

Amachi BB Darrell Weinacht & LB Austin

Amachi BB Charlie McIntyre & LB Marck

Amachi BS Kristina Aesoph & LS Faith

## MATCH ANNIVERSARIES

### 2 YEARS

NAS BS Maureen Flanders & LS Celeste

NAS BS Jackie Viet & LS Shayleigh

NAS BS Kelsey Hunt & LS Beonca

NAS BS Lindsey Swier & LS Destiny

NAS BS Sam Jurrens & LS Jonnie

NAS BS Kalissa Vonk & LB Damian

NAS BS Sarah Loeker & LS Taya

NAS BS Kate Templin & LS Marilyn

Core BB Tyler VanderVorst & LB Devlin

Amachi BS Kristen Tiede & LS Zoey

### 3 YEARS

Core BB Travis Ling & LB Hunter

Core Megan Staebell & LS Karra

Amachi BC Steve & Tracie Rohlf & LB Ryan

### 4 YEARS

NAS BB Kasey Abbott & LB Ricky

Core BS Beth Keller & LS Tailey

Core BB Aaron Keller & LB Karwo

### 5 YEARS

Core BS Laura Roos & LS Tamara

### 6 YEARS

Core BB Scott Linder & LB Matthew

KEY BB = Big Brothers BS = Big Sister  
LS = Little Sister ME = Mentor Mom YM = Young Mom  
NAS = Native American Scholars BC = Big Couple LB = Little Brother

## SHOW SUPPORT FOR BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS PROGRAMS!

Purchase a t-shirt with the BBBS logo design! Now through April 15 you can order your choice of blue, red or purple t-cotton t-shirt for \$10 (we'll take care of shipping and handling!). Choose from sizes Adult Small-2XL. Mail or drop off the enclosed order form and include cash, check or money order to "Big Brothers Big Sisters" for payment. Call 334-1632 for more information.



# Mark Your Calendars!

## MENTOR SOCIAL

Mentors in all four BBBS programs are invited to join staff at Old Chicago for a get-together. Staff will be available for two hours beginning at 5:30 p.m. Come whenever you get off work, grab a bite to eat, ask questions, solve issues, and network with staff and other mentors!



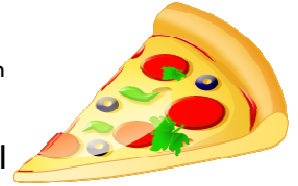
Near the Empire Mall  
on West 41st Street

**Who:** Mentors

Core, NAS, Amachi & Mentor Mom  
& interested friends or family!

**What:** Mentor-Only Social

**When:** Tuesday, April 12



## Tax Information for Mentors



Big Brothers Big Sisters is pleased to inform mentors of the following tax deductions:

- **Deduct \$.14 cents per mile incurred in picking up and driving the mentee around.**
- **You may also deduct the cost of meals, tickets, museum admissions, etc., which you spend for the mentee. However, you cannot deduct costs you incur for your own meals, tickets, etc.**

While BBBS encourages quality time rather than money spent on the Little to be the most important in the relationship, we trust you will find the above information welcome and useful.

## Mentoring Advice & Tips

*As you've probably come to find out, mentoring isn't an exact science, and what works for one match doesn't always work for another. Like all relationships, a match with your Little or Young Mom takes **time** to feel out each other's interests, quirks, boundaries, etc. Still, we've heard some GREAT stories from mentors: outside-the-box activities, overcoming disagreements, working around scheduling conflicts, and many others.*

*We want to hear from YOU! What advice do you have for other mentors? Tell us and we'll print it in our newsletter!*

*Advice from NAS Program Manager Taté Walker:* Get creative in contacting your mentee. For many low-income families, staying in touch with mentors can be difficult, but never more so than at the end of the month, when cell phone minutes run out or run low. Those minutes are super-important for families, and often, things like keeping in touch with mentors get pushed aside to save up for emergency or work calls. Give your mentee a break if you don't hear from them and go outside the box to keep the lines of communication open:

- Send a letter or postcard (kids LOVE getting mail!),
- Visit your mentee at school for lunch/study hall; OR call the school counselor and leave a message there (many counselors will let kids use their phones to contact mentors),
- Use Facebook messaging or send an email, or
- Take it back old school-style and drop by the house for a visit - leave a note if no one is home.

Of course, ALWAYS feel free to contact your case specialist, especially if you become frustrated with match communication (or lack thereof); we are here to help you meet your match goals!

## Contact Us!

Phone: 605-334-1632

Fax: 605-271-8011

### **Big Brothers Big Sisters Staff:**

**Jolene Groen**, Executive Director

jolene@bbbsse.org

**Deb Tornow**, Office Manager

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**Taté Walker**, NAS Program Manager

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**Penny Powers**, Core & Amachi Case Specialist

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**Melissa Jungemann**, Mentor Mom Case Specialist

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**Wendy Lonning**, Match Support Specialist

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**Kari Helling**, Agency Intern

intern@bbbsse.org

**Christine Carey**, Agency Intern

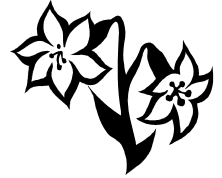
internaof@bbbsse.org

## Upcoming BBBS Events

### April 2011

**April 12 5:30-7:30 p.m. Mentor Social at Old Chicago**  
MENTORS Only! Discuss mentoring issues with staff and other Bigs in a relaxed, social atmosphere. Food and drink on your own dime.

**April 28 7:30 p.m. BBBS at the El Riad Shrine Circus**  
Matches Only! Join BBBS under the big top for a night of fun! We have a limited number of FREE tickets for both kids and adults so call our office today!



### May 2011

**May 7, 5:45 p.m., Sioux Falls Storm Fundraiser**  
Help BBBS earn cash by selling Thunder Balls at the Sioux Falls Storm indoor football game! We need 10-15 volunteers, who will each receive FREE admission to the game!

**May 19, 6-8 p.m., Second Chance Rescue Center**  
The BBBS match event is at this animal shelter, which is always looking for new volunteers! Join us as we cuddle kitties, pet pooches, and learn about volunteering!

**May 26, 6 p.m., Mentor Mom Baby Shower**  
Always the premier celebration of motherhood for Young Mom participants and their mentors! Cake, gifts, and other treats for guests of honor; childcare provided.

Start something™

Sioux Falls, SD 57101

Permit # 7899

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**Big Brothers Big Sisters**  
of the Sioux Empire  
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