



Big Times

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sioux Empire

Little Moments. Big Magic.

July 2008
Volume 5 Issue 7

JazzFest and Big Brothers Big Sisters!

Big Brothers Big Sisters was recently offered a tremendous opportunity to bring in some extra donations this summer by manning the parking lot entrance gates to JazzFest July 19. Admission is free to JazzFest, but the Yankton Trail parking lot cost \$10 to park in. BBBS would receive a base salary to tend the gates, and also benefit from any tips given by drivers.

That's where we need your help. We're asking our Bigs to commit to just ONE of several 2-hour shifts on July 19. That's it. You could bring your Little with you and introduce them to the wonderful art of volunteering. Or just come to hang out on a hot summer day and listen to the distant tunes of JazzFest. Every volunteer will get a free t-shirt. We'll also have coolers of constantly refreshed water, snacks and we're brainstorming fun ways to keep the July heat at bay (think Super Soakers).

We appreciate all the people who have already signed up for a shift to help out, we but still need more volunteers to make the commitment.

If you are available to give Big Brothers Big Sisters at least 2 hours of your time on July 19th, please give us a call at 334-1632 or email Sarah at Sarahb@bbbsse.org. Thank You!

Tips for Mentors

Here are a few tips to do as mentors:

- **Be yourself**

As a mentor you should work with your mentee in a way that is comfortable for you. Child are amazing in the factor that they can tell when you are not being yourself or are not comfortable. Show you mentee something you used to do when you were young.

- **Be reliable and consistent**

The more consistent you are, the more mentee will trust you, start to call you and start conversation with you. A great way to do this is to set up a certain day that you get together with your mentee, will be something for both of you to look forward too.

- **Give off energy**

Show your excitement about what your mentee is doing, and your interest in learning from them. Share your own excitement about activities you are doing and in things that are going on in their lives.

- **Go with the flow**

Be prepared for the unexpected! Bring ideas for what you would like to do, but be prepared to go with the flow of this changing environment.

- **Be patient**

Everyone learns in different ways, yourself included. Be patient if your mentee does not get what you are expressing in the first try.

- **Be open minded to different backgrounds**

All of us come from different backgrounds and have had different experiences. Make sure to patient with your mentee if they have not had the same experience as you. Learn from what they know and they will be open to learn from you.

- **Be approachable**

It is important for mentees to know that you are available for questions. Invite your mentee to come with you on "normal" outings you do, like going grocery shopping, to the mall or just for a walk. Mentees like to see that you are "normal" and it will be easier to build rapport with them as well.

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Upcoming Events

BBBS Calendar

July 17, 2008

Flag Football— Come play Flag football with the Dakota Lawdawgs from 6-8pm, Meet at the Horticulture Building (building right next to the armory) at the Sioux Empire Fairgrounds. This activity is for all BBBS participants matched or waiting! Please let us know if you plan on attending by calling 334-1632 or email Sarah at sarahb@bbbsse.org. This event is **FREE!**

July 24, 2008

Thunder Road— Join BBBS from 6pm to 8pm at Thunder Road. Make sure to bring along your activity card, you will be receiving the buy one get one free deal for the go-karts and mini golf. You will also receive a free token for the batting cages and water wars. We might also get a game of human foosball together. This event is for all ages and all programs (Waiting or Matched). Please let Sarah know if you plan attending this event, 334-1632 or sarahb@bbbsse.org.

Community Calendar

July 4th, 2008— 10am-2pm

4th of July Family Picnic and Parade

Join Mayor Dave Munson for the 4th of July Family Picnic at Falls Park! The first 5,000 people to the park will enjoy a free picnic lunch at Falls Park from 10am to 2pm. Free food, fun and entertainment!

July 4th, 2008-2pm & 7pm; July 11, 2008 7pm; July 11, 2008 7pm; July 18, 2008 7pm & July 25, 2008 7pm.

Greatest Show on H2O

The Greatest Show on H2O at Catfish Bay is a fun family event. The show has comedy, acting, singing, dancing, and more all choreographed to amazing stunts on water. It is an all ages show designed with the family in mind. More Info at www.catfishbay.com. **This is on our activity card!**

July 11-13, 2008

Hot Harley Nights

More info and schedule please see www.hotharleynights.com. This event is **Free!**

July 16, 2008 5pm

Hot Summer Nites: 'Vettes & Harleys on Phillips

An all-American night of celebration in the streets with hot Corvettes, cool Harley-Davidsons and classic rock n' roll. You can dance under the stars and check out more than 700 Corvettes showcased along five blocks of Phillips Avenue.

BBBS will have a booth here, be sure to come say hello!

July 23, 2008 5:30-8:00pm

7th Annual VA Car Show

Come to the VA Medical Center to check out the finest classic cars and motorcycles, street rods, and collectible vehicles out for the evening.

July 29th, 2008—Laurel Oak Park at 10am, Glenview Park at 1pm & Frank Olson at 3pm

July 30th, 2008—Sherman Park at 10am, Campus Park at 1pm & Dan Dugan Park at 3pm

July 31st, 2008—Kenny Anderson C.C. at 10am, McKennan Park at 1pm & Pioneer Park at 3pm

Conductor Jack Norton

Meet Conductor Jack, Jack is committed to bringing age-appropriate music to kids ages 1 to 10 and plays guitar, ukulele, and banjo.

July 30th, 2008

Great Day of Play

Governor Rounds has proclaimed Wednesday, July 30th as the second SD Great Day of Play, encouraging folks to increase physical activity by playing in the city and state parks. FREE Swimming at all pools except Frank Olson from 5 to 9pm. Wacky Water Carnival at Frank Olson Pool from 6:30 to 8:30pm FREE. Family Wacky Olympics Families of four will compete against each other in the water balloon toss, Life Saver on a stick, three legged race, and more. Fee: 5 dollars per Family. Time is from 6 to 8pm at Morningside Park. To register call Oyate C.C. at 367-6185 beginning July 16th.

Activity Card Pick of the Month:

Great Plains Zoo

805 S. Kiwanis Ave.

If you show them your BBBS Activity Card:

Buy one adult admission and child gets in FREE.

****Remember to use your activity card and look at the participating businesses before you go on your outing. The activity card is now online.**

(www.bbbsse.org/activitycard.php)

Match of the Month

July's Match of the Month is Big Brother Paul Schock and Little Brother Weston.

Paul and Weston have been matched for 7 years and 1 month in the BBBS Core Program.

BB Paul Schock's Answers:

Why did you decide to become a Big Brother?

Sometime shortly before asking to be a part, I heard somewhere (don't remember where) that there was a waiting list of young boys and as a father, it hurt me to think of young boys who maybe needed some male influence in their lives but weren't getting it or could use some more.

What do you like the best about having a Little Brother?

Just having a chance to be a part of another person's life, particularly one who was not blessed with a father of his own (from a very young age when his Dad died). I think that when we give of our time/effort/talents, we are usually blessed more than the recipient, and I know I've been very blessed to have Weston in my life.

What is your favorite activity you have done together?

Probably hunting trips, helping introduce Weston to the great outdoors.

How has having a Little brother helped you?

Weston views the glass of this world as being half full, and whenever I'm with him, I'm reminded that this is the best way to live.

Tell us what makes your relationship unique...

I've been able in some ways to be with Weston as he grows from a boy to a young man, and as a parent of my own boys, I feel that we have been able to have a bond that is a bit deeper than that of just a friend.

LB Weston's Answers:

What do you like best about being matched with Paul?

It's Fun!

What is your favorite activity you have done with your Big Brother so far?

Golf.

What would you say to another boy thinking about becoming a part of this program?

Probably to do it!

Tell me something you have learned from your Big Brother Paul?

Always to be a great sport!

Anything that is unique about your match or a tradition you have made with Paul?

We go hunting the first week of the season.

New Matches

BB Bill Visser and LB Michael

BS Brandi Symonds and LB Bryan

BS Della Jeffries and LB Jeff

BS Dana Fisher and LS Sara

BB Jenina Gatnoor & LB CJ

BS Suzanne Ledebor & LS Jasmine

BB Fallon Riggins & LS Chelsea

BS Michelle Kregar & LS Katelyn

BB Jason Baszler & LB Jacob

BB James Shanor & LB Chayden

BS Sabrina Degen & LS Eden

BS Lindsey Taylor & LS Alex

BB Chad Hatch & LB Luke

BS Kristyn Boyd & LS Mariah



Happy Birthday!

YM Trang H.	7-1	YM Becky H.	7-18
BB Jacob Peterreins	7-1	LS Lizzy N.	7-19
LS Mya M.	7-3	BC Jeff Vavra	7-19
BS Erin Weinkauf	7-3	BC Denise Kjesbo	7-19
BB Scott Linder	7-3	BB Dalton Walker	7-21
LS Amanda H.	7-5	BB Randy Marsh	7-22
YM LaChara B.	7-5	BB Casey Buller	7-22
LS Elena B.	7-6	MM Stefanie Sage	7-23
LB Tristan C.	7-6	YM Alicia H.	7-23
YM Jessie V.	7-6	MM Sandra Olson	7-23
LS Chazz M.	7-8	BS Della Jeffries	7-23
BS Holly Swedeen	7-8	BS Karmyn Marchand	7-24
BS Deb Fiedler	7-9		7-24
BS Jessica Van Hill	7-10	LB Brandon C.	7-24
LS Marina J.	7-11	LS Jessica C.	7-24
BB Marcus Claye	7-11	LB Jacob G.	7-25
BS Jessica Paterson	7-12	BB Kevin Hebert	7-25
LS Kecera C.	7-12	BS Cassie Zomer	7-27
BS Melissa Jungemann		MM Kim Staebell	7-28
	7-13	LB Riley T.	7-28
LS Erin S.	7-15	LS Marquitta M.B.	7-28
BB Benny Castillo	7-15	YM Christina P.	7-29
LB Tyler V.	7-15	MM Michelle Burns	7-29
LS Tiacha R.	7-15	LB Samuel D.	7-29
LB Gage D.	7-16	LS Chaselyn M.	7-29
LB Ryan B.	7-16	BB Brain Eide	7-29
BS Nicole Langin	7-17	BB Patrick Hansen	7-30
BS Karla Abbott	7-17	LB Jacob F.	7-31
LB Yonto T.	7-18	LS Erika H.	7-31

Incentive Winners for June:

BS Nichole Philbrick

MM Amber Winter

MM Brenda King

Call or e-mail your Match Support Specialist (BBBS Core and Mentor Mom contact Sarah, NAS contact Taté, and Amachi contact Penny) to give an update on your match before the 15th of the month, and you could be next month's winner!

KEY:

BB = Big Brothers BS = Big Sister BC = Big Couple

LB = Little Brother LS = Little Sister

MM = Mentor Mom YM = Young Mom

NAS = Native American Scholars

Match Anniversaries

8 YEARS

BS Tina Feenstra & LS Erica K.

5 YEARS

BS Tali Paulson & LS Kasha B.

4 YEARS

BS Angie Bormann & LS Emily V. B.

3 YEARS

BB Nick Jackson & LB Alexander R.

BS Kim Te Slaa & BS Danielle K.

2 YEARS

BS Paula Clary & Cheree L.

MM Diane Stengel & YM Kay B.

1 YEAR

BS Debra Draayer & LS Kendra C.

BS Jezelle Ryan & LS Jazmine R.

BS Jackie Daniels & LS Desiree C.

BS Christine Grode & LS Maggie U.

BB Casey Buller & LB Darius K.

BB Trevor Holleman & LS Malik R.

Pictures of the Month

**Wild Water West
June 19, 2008**



Frequently Asked Question:

Are there better ways to approach sensitive issues with my mentee?

Yes. This takes balance, and you will become better at it with practice. Move these conversations forward with care, without sermonizing. Do not sidestep key points. It will help if you mentee does not feel she is about to receive the 34-35thrid-degree or a 10-point lecture.

"Wed have most of our conversations in the car, where I can't sit and stare at her," Linda said. "I always believed the best way to approach sensitive issues and to deal with the heavy stuff is in little bits at a time."

"You might say 'I heard you and your friends talking about such and such. I just want to know how you feel about that,'" she continued. "Do it in a way that they don't feel like you're going to pick them up and they're going to get a lecture or a lesson every time."

You also may wish to turn down your advice-giving knob for awhile and crank up your listening knob.

"Be a good, empathetic listener, a reflective," said Michael. "I believe children want to be heard and understood and I don't think they always want answers. I'd tell them 'Thanks for being willing to share that with me.'"

Nine-year mentor Nick agreed that listening can be more than half the battle.

"You have to try to determine what it is they're trying to tell you or ask you," he said. "What they perceive as a big deal or insurmountable problem may not be at all from an older person's perspective. You work through it with them. Sometimes it's a matter of asking some questions, not probing, really, but in a normal tone."

Source: Mentoring answer book from Big Brothers Big Sisters of McHenry County

Match Activity

4th of July

Crowing Glory

Our infinitely customizable crown begins with duct tape and flexible straws. We then topped ours with glittery pom-poms, pipe cleaners, and snips of garland. But, hey, it's a free country: embellish yours however you choose!

Craft Materials Needed:

Flexible measuring Tape Blue and Red duct Tape Pipe Cleaners
Star garland, cut into 6-inch lengths Tacky Glue Pom-poms



1. Measure the circumference of your child's head. Cut a piece of blue duct tape to this length plus 2 inches. Lay the tape sticky side up (A). Adhere the straws to the tape (B), leaving four inches clear on either end.
2. Cut a second piece of blue tape, the same length as the first, and place it sticky side down to sandwich the straws (C).
3. Cut a piece of red duct tape to the same length as the blue ones. Fold it over the bottom edge of the blue tape "sandwich." Fit the headband to your child, then tape the ends together to form a circle.
4. Slide curled pipe cleaners and garland into the straws. Glue pom-poms to the pipe cleaner tops. Bend the straws as desired.

Source: www.familyfun.go.com

Mentor Mom Program

We are in need of Mentor Moms!

If you have any friends or family members that is interested in being a Mentor Mom, please refer them to us. Requirements to be a mentor mom are: at least 25 years old, a mom themselves and willing to be a friend. The time commitment is a minimum of twice per month and committed to the relationship for 1 year. Please contact Melissa at 334-1632 or melissa@bbbsse.org.

Possibly Resource for your Young Mom: **Teddy Bear Den**

The Teddy Bear Den is a nonprofit education incentive-bases program for limited-income pregnant women and families. The goal is to promote healthier pregnancies, healthier babies, and an overall healthier community. The volunteers provide information on prenatal care and parenting classes. Those who qualify and participate in the programs may earn "teddy credits" which can be exchanged for new baby items, such as baby clothes, diapers, blankets, bottles, highchairs and strollers.

To sign-up go to the Teddy Bear Den which is located at 500 S. Main Street, downtown Sioux Falls right behind Kelo-land. It is open 11:00am to 1:00pm, Tuesday and Saturday. For more information visit www.teddybearden.org or call 335-2730.

Native American Scholars

The beat of the drum, the swish of the shawls, the aroma of frybread, the tables covered with jewelry and beadwork – think you or your Little might be bored at a powwow? Think again.

At powwows, you can't help but be enchanted by the sights, sounds and smells of the gathering. Best of all, however, is the camaraderie among people, regardless of whether you're tribally affiliated or not.

Consider taking your Little to one of the many area powwows this month. If you've never been to a powwow, or have minimal experience with them, use this opportunity to have your Little show off his or her dancing skills or their knowledge of the culture. They'll love the chance to impress you.

- Annual Sisseton-Wahpeton Wacipi, July 4-6. For more information, call 605-698-3911.
- Annual Flandreau Santee Traditional Powwow, July 18-20. For more information, call 605-977-3891 or 605-977-2870.
- Winnebago Powwow (20 miles south of Sioux City, Neb.), July 24-27. For more information, call 402-878-2272.
- Keepers Traditional Powwow (Pipestone, Minn.), July 26. For more information, call 507-825-3734.

Amachi

We will be recruiting for mentors at the Annual Lighthouse Festival August 29, 30, & 31st. We are looking for mentors & their littles who would like to volunteer to talk with potential mentors at a BBBS booth. We will use matches & volunteers from all of our programs. Please contact Penny to volunteer or to answer questions. There will be a short training for volunteers scheduled in the middle of August.

Also Amachi will be celebrating it's one year anniversary the 1st of August look for some exciting treats and information to come.
-Penny

Contact Us!

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Fax: 605-271-8011

Big Brothers Big Sisters Staff:

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Penny Powers, Amachi Case Specialist

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Deb Tornow, Office Manager

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BBBS Events' Calendar

July

July 17th—Flag-touch Football with the Lawdaws, 6-8pm.(More details on pg. 2).

July 24th—Thunder Road, 6-8pm.(More details on pg. 2).

July 28th—Mentor Training, 5:30pm at the BBBS Office. Training is for new mentors to the BBBS program. Mentors do need to be trained before being matched. Please RSVP to your case specialist.

August

August 12th—Annual Picnic, 6-8pm.For Bigs, Littles and their families. (More details next month).

August 14th—Kite Flying with Lawdaws, 6-8pm.(More details next month).

August 25th—Mentor Training, 5:30pm at the BBBS Office. (See above for details).

We need your help!

Big Brothers Needed!

BBBS currently has about 55 boys waiting to be matched with a Big Brother!

Mentors already in the program are some of our best recruiters because they can give first-hand accounts of what it's like to be matched with a Little. Please consider talking to your co-workers, family and friends about becoming a mentor today.

We have hundreds of special "Become A mentor today!" business cards you can bring to your office or with you to social or family functions. If you would like to help us recruit, call the BBBS of the Sioux Empire office at 334-1632.



Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sioux Empire

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