Greetings from our Executive Director

With the Holiday Season just around the corner, we at Big Brothers Big Sisters have so much to be grateful for. 2018 has been a very good year for us in so many ways. However, we still have an urgent need for volunteers/Bigs. Being a mentor requires no special skills and will only take a few hours of your time each month. You and a child who needs guidance and friendship can enjoy time together while doing activities such as hiking, playing miniature golf, fishing and anything else the two of you dream up. Perhaps it will be a school based match geared for supporting a littles academic enrichment. Most importantly, our staff is here to support you every step of the way! Call or email us at your earliest convenience to truly change you and your future little’s life this Holiday Season. Please enjoy this holiday edition of our newsletter that shares some of our accomplishments. Please find our Holiday Ask on our web page at www.bbbsjackson.org (control + click) to help support our mission of one-to-one mentoring. Thank you for your past support. We are excited to see how much we can accomplish together in 2019!
Annual Picnic:

Our Annual Picnic was held Wednesday, August 8th at Cascades Park, Urban Fisheries Pond, and was another nice success! Once again, we extend a “Big” thank you to Mr. Amanati’s Frosty Boy for sponsorship and such great tasting ice cream. What a donation!!! This year the games included a sack race, watermelon eating contest, but the all time favorite activity of the day was of course the infamous Tug-of-War contest to see who were going to be the winners... but, in the end, it will always be the “Littles” who are the winners that day, and every day, thanks to the generous support of our “Bigs”, Volunteers, Fundraisers, Board Members and staff. Finally, we want to extend a “Big” thank you to Emily Walainis and her Consumers Energy volunteers who helped out at our picnic. Their help is always appreciated!! Again, we thank each and every one of you!!

MONTHLY EVENT PLANNING CALENDAR

October 25, 2018 @ St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
309 S. Jackson St.
5:30—7pm
Monthly Event
Theme: 
Halloween Party

November 13, 2018 @ JaxNaz Church
3905 Clinton Way
6—8pm
Monthly Event
Theme: 
Thanksgiving Dinner

December 8, 2018 @ First Untied Methodist Church
275 W. Michigan Ave.
9:30—11am
Monthly Event
Theme: 
Breakfast with Santa
Shadows of a thousand years rise again unseen, voices whisper in the trees, “Tonight is Halloween”

Spooctacular Party!

All witches, ghosts, ghouls and goblins are welcome to celebrate this year’s Halloween with us! Come dressed in your best costume for a fun time of food, snacks, games, activities & a costume contest with prizes awarded for best costume!!!

Happy Thanksgiving

We’ll get the bird, you bring the fixin’s and we’ll all celebrate giving thanks together!
Tuesday, November 13, 2018,
6:00-8:00pm
JaxNaz Church,
3905 Clinton Rd. Please RSVP with the passing dish you plan to bring! 784-7181

Breakfast with Santa

For many years Santa Claus has made a special visit to Jackson to visit with our Bigs and Littles before Christmas… this year is no exception! Join Santa and the rest of us for our annual pancakes & sausage breakfast, fun activities, and Santa’s recitation of

_T was the night before Christmas_

Saturday, December 8, 2018
9:30—11:00am
First United Methodist Church, 275 W. Michigan Ave.

Please RSVP if you will be joining us! 517-784-7181
Rob Albertson & Corey

Corey and Rob have been matched for 10 years in the Site Based program! This Big and Little enjoys grabbing breakfast before school and spending time together. Corey is a senior this year and is looking forward to attending college next fall! Corey enjoys football, baseball and he is also interested in art. This match is always working toward their goals and this year they are working on college applications, scholarships and budgeting as well as working out together! An interesting fact about this match is that Rob is Corey’s Big Brother, but Corey is also a Big Brother to a 3rd grade student! Way to go Corey!!

Jenna Darling, Site Based Match Specialist

Site Based Matches

October
*10 Yrs.*
Rob Albertson & Corey

*3 Yrs.*
Pam Maynard & Alejandra

November
*9 Yrs.*
Gerald Walmsley & Boyd

December
*6 Yrs.*
Terry Wineland & Hunter

Meet our New Site Based Match Specialist!

My name is Mackay Heasley and I am a recent graduate of Spring Arbor University. I am now continuing my education at Spring Arbor in pursuit of my Masters of Social Work degree. I played volleyball at Spring Arbor and love all sports! I have a passion for helping others, so I am super excited to serve for Big Brothers Big Sisters!
Kristen Hanna & Heather

I often get asked if I ever get a break and some “free time” from farming. The answer is simple...yes and no! Okay, maybe not so simple. Yes, I get a break and then I share it doing farm activities! Meet Heather. She’s my “little sister” through the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. My mentoree so to speak. What do Heather and I do during our time together? Animals (surprise there), Community Fairs, and 4-H mostly. We got together about two years ago and what a change she has brought to my life! We started with lambs for the fair show ring and even for senior citizen day (thank you to a regular buyer who wanted them)! Then to chickens...notice the gloves. Don’t think the big birds are really her thing! Then rabbits. And more rabbits. And community involvement with rabbits. We both all brought honors, ribbons, and learning. And lots, lots more. But the question comes to mind- Who’s really won? Surely not the rabbit or the chicken?! I know I have.

Andrea Parshall, Community Based Match Specialist
Christmas Party
Breakfast With Santa!

Don’t miss our annual Christmas Breakfast with Santa December 8th, 2018 at the First United Methodist Church from 9:30am-11am. Pancakes and sausage will be served by volunteers along with activities to do for the children. **Bring the following nomination form to vote for Big of the Year** which will be awarded at the Mentor Appreciation Breakfast Jan. 24th 2019 or mail the application to our office. Show appreciation to your Big!

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Jackson County
Big Of The Year 2018 Nomination Form

My name is ______________________________________________________ and I would like to nominate ______________________________________ as Big Brother/Big Sister (circle one) of The Year for Community Based / Site Based (circle one) because:

_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

Please, if you are able, email this form back to Match Specialist Andrea Parshall (aparshall@bbbsjackson.org) or Mackay Heasley (mheasley@bbbsjackson.org). PLEASE BRING YOUR FORM TO THE CHRISTMAS PARTY ON DECEMBER 8th, or send to our office at: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Jackson County  *Mark your calendar, Mentor Appreciation Breakfast, 1/24/2019*
536 N. Jackson St., Jackson, MI 49201
Learning how to learn is one of the most important skills in life

-Norma Fauziyah