



## MAKING SPIRITS BRIGHT: BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS HOLIDAY HELP CAMPAIGN

Big Brothers Big Sisters, with the help of the community, made spirits bright for 75 children and their families. The Holiday Help Campaign has been an agency favorite for thirteen years, enabling staff, community partners, and local businesses answer the Christmas wishes of deserving Littles, their siblings, and parents. Every child submits their own personal Christmas wish list, and caring adults shop and wrap each gift.

But that is not all these lucky Littles got; each family received a Duchess Gas Gift Card, a McDonald's Happy Meal coupon, a voucher for a free large Domino's Pizza, a Wal-Mart or Kroger Gift card, Patty's Dance Center donated hats, gloves, and socks for every child, and a local nonprofit called Sending Hope contributed a selection of toys that children could choose from. We are so thankful to all these wonderful businesses and individuals who helped to make the holidays bright this year.



## YOUTH SURVEY DATA AT A GLANCE

- 88% of Littles reported their Big has lots of good ideas about how to solve problems
- 97% of Littles rated their Big as a Very Important Influence
- 100% of Littles said they feel safe when they are with their Big
- 45 children are on the waitlist for a Big ...

Volunteer and make a BIG difference!

[bbbslp.org](http://bbbslp.org)



## AGENCY DATA AT A GLANCE

Measurement Category	Annual 2022	Annual 2023	Winter 2022	Winter 2023
# of Matches	236	341	186	279
# of Youth Served ages 6 - 18 years	332	435	218	382
New Matches	179	182	47	42
School-Based 12 Month Match Retention Rate	89%	81%	NA	NA
Community 12-Month Match Retention Rate	86%	84%	NA	NA

### MEET OUR MATCHES



**Big Brother Phil and Little Brother Gage** have been matched in the Lunch Buddies program for six years since Gage was in kindergarten. As time passes, their match continues to grow stronger. Chess is one of their favorite activities, and Phil is not embarrassed to admit his Little Brother taught him how to play. Last year Gage’s family suffered a tragedy when their house burnt down. Phil was determined to offer help and connected ‘89 Angels, a charitable organization, that equipped the family with new kitchen appliances. Phil is truly an Angel.

**Big Sister Loretta and Little Sister Aaliyah** have been matched for 3 years. Loretta wanted to become a Big Sister because she saw what fun her daughter and son-in-law have had being Community Bigs. She was worried she might be too old to volunteer, but the staff at BBBSLP encouraged her to sign up. Aaliyah was thrilled to get off the waitlist and be matched with Loretta, the “Best Big Sister ever!” These two love to play games, do crafts, and laugh. What is Loretta’s advice to youth and happiness; “Volunteer to be a Big.”

Please sign up to volunteer at [bbbslp.org](http://bbbslp.org) and help us match the 45 children on the waitlist.

