



BIGnews

A publication of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwestern Indiana

FALL 2019



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters®**
OF SOUTHWESTERN
INDIANA

GOLF FOR KIDS' SAKE RESULTS

The 7th Annual Golf for Kids' Sake event took place on Monday, August 5th at Cambridge Golf Club. This was the first year the event was held at Cambridge and the event raised **\$16,795!** We are so grateful to all of the sponsors, participants, and volunteers who made the event a success.

We are also grateful to this year's Title Sponsor, Merrill Lynch, for their ongoing support and leading this event into another successful year. Special congratulations go to this year's Evansville Area Business Champions, German American Bank. This is the third time they have won our event trophy in the past seven years! Stay tuned for information about next year's Golf for Kids' Sake event.



THANK YOU TO OUR TITLE SPONSOR:



Steve Gorman and Anna Hargis
The Gorman, Cope, Seger & Mattingly Team

50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION NIGHT

We would like to give a BIG thanks to Deaconess Hospital, Vectren, and Bauerhaus Catering for our 50th Anniversary Celebration Night on Wednesday, June 19th. Congratulations to our Big Brother of the Year, Justin, and our Big Sister of the Year, Tanya. This year we created the Frank Howard Award for Outstanding Achievement in honor of our first Executive Director and the award was given to Susie Tooley from Posey County.

Thank you to everyone who attended and made the evening possible. 2019 marks an incredible year and we look forward to the next 50 years serving our community through mentoring.



SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars for our 2020 Bowl for Kids' Sake events in Evansville and Mt. Vernon. Registration opens in November so stay tuned for more details!



Posey County Bowl for Kids' Sake
Posey Lanes



Evansville Bowl for Kids' Sake
Franklin Lanes

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Greetings
Agency
Supporters!
I am Dana
Wilson and I
have recently
accepted
the role of
Executive
Director of

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwestern Indiana.

BBBS is near and dear to my heart as I was previously Executive Director of BBBS of Southwest Louisiana. It has truly been a blessing to be part of a wonderful mentoring organization once again. I am excited to meet our Bigs, Littles, Sponsors, Supporters and everyone in the local community who has helped make us the premier mentoring agency that we are today.

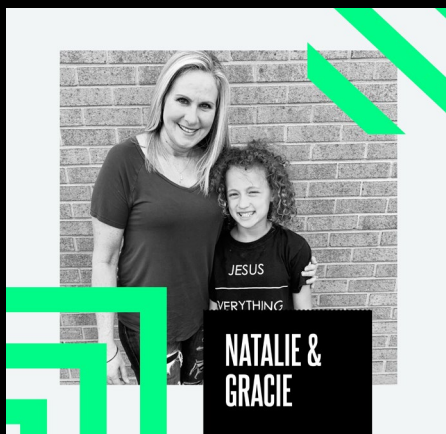
As you know, we recently celebrated our 50th year of creating and supporting one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth in Evansville and surrounding areas. On behalf of the staff and board of directors, I would like to say "Thank You" for your continued support and that we all look forward to the next 50 years of service to our community.

Sincerely,

Dana Wilson

Executive Director

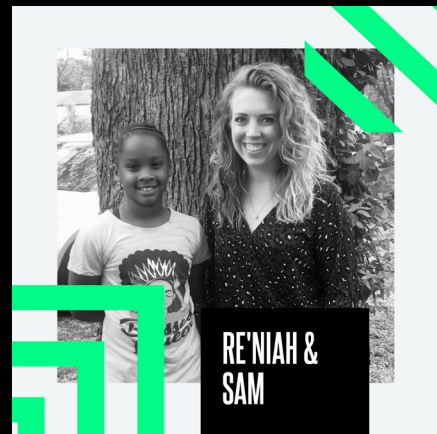
NEW matches



NATALIE &
GRACIE



DE'MARIUS
& SETH



RE'NIAH &
SAM



WILLIAM &
KAYDEN



OLIVIA &
MEGAN



TE'AH TRELL
& JAMISON

MEET OUR NEWEST STAFF MEMBERS!



DANA WILSON is our agency's new Executive Director. She was born and raised in Louisiana, but has called Indiana her home for the past four years. She is excited to make strong connections in our community.



JASCIE GISH is a Case Manager who helps matches in Vanderburgh and Posey Counties. She is a recent USI graduate who has developed a strong passion for helping children grow and reach their full potential.



CAILAN WALTHERS is a Case Manager who helps matches in Vanderburgh, Warrick, and Spencer Counties. She received her bachelors and masters at USI and is most excited to watch the Littles flourish alongside their Big.



LISA ANDERSON is our new Bookkeeper/Office Manager. She is an accountant who spent most of her career working for a small public accounting firm. In her free time, Lisa enjoys gardening and crafts.

TOGETHER, WE ARE DEFENDERS OF POTENTIAL

DEFEND. IGNITE. EMPOWER.

MATCH SNAPS



Matthew and La'Jayveontae took a photo with the mascots at the Evansville Otter's game!



DJ and Roy stopped to snap this adorable photo during one of their outings at Walther's Golf & Fun.



Here is Monica and Amiyah spending quality time at the park.

GOLF FOR KIDS' SAKE SPONSORS



Steve A. Gorman and Anna Hargis
The Leffel, Gorman, Cope & Seger Team



Oral Surgery Group

Jason M. Kuester, DDS LCC

Midwest Jewelry &

Appraisals

Boilermakers Local 374

The Merkel Family

DID YOU KNOW???

Over **100** local kids are waiting for a mentor.

Learn how you can help at mentoringkids.org.

DEFENDING POTENTIAL.

MATCH FEATURE - DANIELLE AND ADDY

As an ICU Nurse at Deaconess, Big Sister Danielle has always had an affinity for helping people. She grew up in Evansville and has always wanted to make an impact within her own community. In 2018, Danielle enrolled in the program after a friend convinced her it would completely change her life. During the enrollment process, Danielle said she wanted to be a support and be a positive influence. She wanted to be someone that her Little could trust and talk with.



Addyson is a fun-loving and outgoing nine-year-old who is constantly smiling. Crystal, Addy's Aunt, enrolled her in the program because she wanted Addy to have a positive role model in her life. She stated that "Addy needs a stable support system" since transitioning from her parents' house to live with her Aunt.

In July 2018, Addy and Danielle met and have loved spending time together since day one. They enjoy being active outside, primarily playing basketball and going swimming. Occasionally, they work on homework together as well. Danielle stated that Addy has matured a lot since they started meeting, and is better at communicating as well. Danielle has always been impressed with Addy's ability to think about others first. Last fall, they visited a pumpkin patch on one of their outings together. They went out and picked pumpkins together and, being the caring person that she is, Addy wanted to make sure they got pumpkins to bring back for each person in her family.



To learn more about how you can make an impact through mentoring, please visit mentoringkids.org/volunteer.

MEET OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBER



Emily grew up in a small town in Webster County, Kentucky, and graduated from Western Kentucky University with a journalism degree. Eventually her career brought her to the Evansville area, and in the Spring of 2016, she was invited to attend a Bowl for Kids' Sake with friends. She knew nothing about Big Brothers Big Sisters but when she got to the event, she started learning about the organization and immediately wanted to become involved. Shortly after she was matched with her Little Jazzmin and they were matched for two years!

In July 2018, Emily was matched with her second Little Gracie and they share the same passion for dogs, ice cream, and Playmobil toys. Gracie is 10 and lives with her grandparents less than a half mile away from Emily in Henderson, KY. Their relationship has grown into one of trust and friendship and together they have learned to lean less on animals and gained confidence in human relationships as well. Gracie's grandparents, who are both retired, wanted her to be matched with

a younger adult who works a full-time job. Emily works at Escalade Sports and lives with her husband Nathan and their two English Setters, who Gracie just adores.

There are many ways to get involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters. Learn more at mentoringkids.org.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR BOARD AT MENTORINGKIDS.ORG/BOARD

TOGETHER, WE ARE DEFENDERS OF POTENTIAL