

Spring 2008

Volume 2, Issue 2

# Big News

Big Brothers Big Sisters of St. Joseph County  
(574) 232-9958 www.bbbs-sjc.org



## Fore a Good Cause

In order to raise funds to support our mentor programs, we are holding our 8th annual golf outing on Monday, July 28th, at the **Morris Park Country Club, one of the area's premiere courses.** You can help make this golf outing a success by participating with your friends and/or colleagues. Every swing you make furthers the drive to providing essential mentoring services to the youth of our community. We hope you will be part of this exciting afternoon!



### Our New Program— L.E.A.D.

We are starting a new mentoring program this fall called L.E.A.D. (Learning, Education, Advancement, and Direction) This unique program will bring together successful African American men as mentors with African American boys, ages 11-14, in a structured, educational environment. Our mission is to foster a positive self-image among African American youth in our community to empower them as individuals and members of our community to proceed along paths to success. We appreciate the African American Community Fund for their support of this program. Please call Debra Walker at 232-9958 if you are interested in being a part of this program.

#### Golf Outing Details

Each team receives one round of golf with a golf cart, buffet lunch, rangeballs and gift bag. Plus, participate in putting contests, win great prizes, and even putt with one of our "Littles".

#### Golf Outing Schedule

11:30 AM: Registration and Buffet

12:30 PM: Tee Time

#### Sponsorship Levels

**Birdie, \$700:** Receive a foursome, a hole sign, and recognition of your support at the registration table, in the program, and in our newsletter.

**Foursome, \$550:** Assemble your team and play!

**Hole Sponsor, \$200:** Receive a hole sign in recognition of your support.

**Player's Card, \$25:** Rather than having to pay for contests or extra raffle tickets while you're on the course, you can purchase a player's card to avoid the hassle and save a few bucks too! Pay now and pick up your voucher at registration. For just \$25 you will receive: three raffle tickets (\$10 value), three balls in the putting contest (\$5 value), one mulligan (\$5 value), and take the pro shot (\$10 value).

Log on to our website, [www.bbbs-sjc.org](http://www.bbbs-sjc.org) for more information and to download a registration form. Or you can give us a call at (574) 232-9958 and we will sign you up right over the phone!

**Big Brothers Big Sisters would like to thank their sponsors:**

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## School Mentor Wrap-Up

The 2007-2008 school year was a successful one for the School Mentor Program. This year we served over 100 children from 6 different schools. Each match met for at least one hour each week from October to May. They participated in an assortment of academic activities from writing animal reports, to math homework, to completing art projects based upon famous artists. Both Littles and Bigs had an amazing time working together this year.



*Big Sister Alex and Little Brother Tony work on handwriting skills.*

Teacher evaluations for the program this year have come back positive. A large portion of the children improved in at least 2 subjects this year; the majority of those students improved in 4 or more areas this year. Overall, evaluations show that the program was beneficial for all involved: the child, the volunteer, and the school staff.



### **Big Brothers Big Sisters of St. Joseph County**

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### *Did You Know*

We grew by over 20% last year! This was made possible by two things: more volunteers giving generously of their time and more donors giving generously of their funds. Both helped us reach more children who are now that much closer to fulfilling their potential as positive members of our community. It is Little Moments that make Big Magic!



### *Our Mission*

To provide children who lack sufficient adult support with the opportunities and skills necessary to develop positive personal growth. This is achieved through one-to-one relationships with volunteer mentors and maintained with supervision and support services provided by the professional staff of the agency.

### *Our Staff*

**Deborah Burrow**, Executive Director  
**Beth Berry**, Fund Development Coordinator  
**Erin Hershberger**, School Mentor Program Coordinator  
**Laurie Morlan**, Case Manager  
**Debra Walker**, Outreach Coordinator/  
Case Manager  
**Gene Wroblewski**, Bookkeeper

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