

BIG NEWS

SUMMER 2017



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SPOTLIGHT: *BIG* changes at BBBSLI

The summer has been busy at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island. We had record growth in 2016 and we're thrilled to announce the purchase of a new office in Westbury, with plenty of room for our growing team in our Nassau location.

"The new office was a critical move for us, we needed to be able to accommodate our new staff and host more onsite activities in Nassau County. The new location at 25 Carle Road will have an activity center, a family room as well as larger conference space. The location, just off Old Country Road, is accessible by several major highways and public transportation," said BBBSLI CEO, Mark Cox.

Despite our growth over the past two years, we are in desperate need of male volunteers to apply to be Big Brothers. With a current wait list of over 450 Boys, we needed to take action and hired two former Big Brothers onto our team to address the recruitment needs. We're thrilled to have the expertise of Mike Oliveri a long-time partner of BBBSLI who was the former Vice President of Procurement at Nature's Bounty. Mike's experience as a Big Brother and corporate sponsor make him an invaluable addition to the team. He was able to see first hand the value of a stable role model for his Little and looks forward to sharing the importance of mentoring with corporations across Long Island.

Complimenting Mike's corporate experience is the addition of Chuck Lott, Manager of External Relations. Chuck was also a Big Brother and comes to the agency with a good deal of public relations experience, serving as an announcer for a variety of local college and professional teams. Chuck's priority will be addressing the need for Big Brothers but will also be working on activities and events for the agency. "We need to break it down for people, let them know that in just a few hours a month you can make a big difference in the life of a child. We can't expect change in our communities if we don't address the needs of our children," said Chuck Lott.

There are so many ways corporations and individuals can help us address the growing needs of children on Long Island. Inviting us to talk to employees about volunteer opportunities, sponsoring children for our Holiday For Kids' Sake Program, organizing backpack or coat drives, attending one of our upcoming events or even sharing our social media posts and spreading the word about our need for male volunteers. Please contact: clott@bbbsli.org with your ideas and suggestions.



(From left): Chuck Lott & Mike Oliveri

WE'VE MOVED!!

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island has moved its Nassau office location to a larger building to accommodate our growing team! Phone numbers are the same.

Our new address is:

The E. David Woycik Jr. Building

25 Carle Road

Westbury, NY 11590

(located just off Old County Road behind Shiro's Japanese Restaurant)



Weight Watchers Members Accept BBBSLI's Clothing Donation Challenge

Hundreds of Weight Watchers members came out in full generous force to accept the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island challenge to donate at least 2000 lbs. of slightly used clothing or small household items.

Incredibly, they exceeded that target by collecting 7,084 pounds!!! This outstanding outpouring of time, effort and spirit allowed us to match three children with mentors who will be a positive force in their lives.

Weight Watchers members also courageously shifted their own mindset by purposefully deciding to donate the loose-fitting clothes they had been holding on to "just in case."

Weight Watchers Meeting Facilitator Susan Zirilli shared, "It was a truly powerful experience to come together as a community and help our neighbors while simultaneously celebrating our personal successes on the road to improved health and fitness. I am so proud and humbled by the grace and kindness of our Weight Watchers community whenever I call upon them to "pay it forward" to others in need of our help."



BBBSLI Launches Tutoring Program for Littles

BBBSLI received a \$7,500 grant from the KeyBank Foundation to launch a tutoring and college test preparation program, available at no cost, for children enrolled in the agency's mentoring program. Participants had access to in-person, one-on-one New York State Regents review classes as well as online Regents review courses, SAT/ACT preparation classes taught by industry professionals, distribution of study skills materials, practice testing and critique sessions. As part of this program, High School Seniors will have the opportunity to attend college application assistance nights where they can learn about the admissions process and receive essay writing tips and guidance.



Healthy Littles Series Summer 2017 Activities

BBBSLI has been hosting a summer series designed to promote health and wellness for our Littles. Our events that have taken place during the first half of summer have included: a swim lesson series with instruction from the Levittown Swim Association, a “Big Fun for Littles” day camp, fishing trips, tickets to sporting events, oyster farming in Moriches Bay and “Yoga at Dusk”. We are excited about the available space in our new building in Westbury, allowing us to offer more match activities throughout the year. For more information on supporting our Activity Fund, please contact Director of Services, Nancy Farrell Travers at 516-731-7880 X218 or ntravers@bbbsli.org



“Big Fun for Littles” day camp held in partnership with the Alice USA summer intern class



Swimming Lessons with The Levittown Swim Association



Fishing Trips



Sporting Events



Oyster Farming in Moriches Bay



“Yoga at Dusk”

New Board of Directors Slate 2017-18

On June 7th, BBBSLI held its annual Board of Directors meeting at the Garden City Country Club. The new slate of officers were installed at a Leadership Reception which took place following the annual meeting. The Leadership Reception was attended by BBBSLI Board members, President's Council members and staff.

The new slate of officers for 2017-18 Board of Directors: Board Chair, Kathleen Courtney; Vice Chair, Michael Paley; Treasurer, Richard Grossi; and Secretary, Liz Meyers.

BBBSLI would like to thank all the members of our 2017-18 Board of Directors for their ongoing commitment and dedication to our agency's mission. To view a complete list of BBBSLI's Board of Directors visit: <http://bbbsli.org/about-us/board-of-directors/>



(From left): Secretary, Liz Meyers; Chair, Kathleen Courtney; Treasurer, Richard Grossi & Vice Chair, Michael Paley

Big & Littles Light Up the Runway at Fashion Show

On May 18, 2017, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island (BBBSLI) hosted their annual Fashion Show, presented by Steve Madden. Nearly 200 people gathered at The Inn at New Hyde Park to watch BBBSLI Big & Little matches light up the runway modeling a range of looks from "thrift store chic" to formal wear. Donna Drake, award winning media personality and host of Live It Up with Donna Drake served as the event's guest emcee. Ten Big & Little matches modeled collections from Savers, Lexi Rose, Montauk Tackle and Lord & Taylor. Clothing was complimented by jewelry and accessories donated by Fortunoff Fine Jewelry. BBBSLI staff

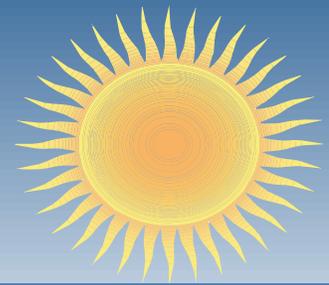
members also participated in the show modeling a collection of clothing and accessories from Popi's Place.

The BBBSLI Fashion Show offered attendees the opportunity to witness the fun and dynamic closeness shared between Bigs & Littles! The event also highlighted

the positive impact the Bigs have had on their Littles' increased confidence and self-esteem. Throughout the show, matches found creative ways to incorporate their unique personalities into their runway performances. Observing the friendships and bonds shared between all the matches reinforced the impact and importance of the agency's mentoring program. The star performances of our Bigs and Littles made the Fashion Show a memorable success!



Walk for Kids' Sake 5K, Little Fun Run & Family Picnic



On Saturday, June 10th, nearly 300 people gathered at Heckscher State Park for the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island (BBBSLI) Walk for Kids' Sake 5K, Little Fun Run and Annual Family Picnic. This year's event co-sponsored by GEICO and Nature's Bounty, brought together Bigs, Littles, families, children waiting to be matched, board members, supporters and the community for a fun-filled day while also raising funds to help BBBSLI grow the number of children served through their mentoring programs.

"This year we combined our Walk for Kids Sake with our Annual Picnic and added a Little Fun Run. The weather was beautiful and to have our matches walk alongside our supporters, children waiting to be matched, and the families of the children in our programs was really special," said Nancy Farrell Travers, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island Director of Services. She added, "the agency needs over 450 Big Brothers and the Walk for Kids' Sake 5K helps us raise the funds needed to recruit more male volunteers".

The day began with the newly added Little Fun Run. Children participating in the run were filled with excitement as the crowd cheered them on with encouragement. Runners and walkers then participated in a 5K which included scenic views of the park's fields, beaches and woodlands.

A picnic lunch awaited guests and included games and dances lead by DJ Joe, inflatables, and painting individual canvases that will go on display in the BBBSLI offices. Littles and their family members were treated to several giveaways including new books from the book fair table and a variety of gently used sporting equipment provided by Play It Forward. Thanks to a donation from BCNY/Synclair Brands, Littles and their siblings were also invited to choose from a large selection of brand new designer shoes. More importantly, attendees left the event with smiles and fond memories from a fun-filled day of excitement.



GRANTS



\$3,500 grant from We Care Nassau County Bar Association



\$7,500 grant from KeyBank Foundation

BBBSLI Raises More Than \$100,000 at Annual Golf Tournament

On Monday, June 5th, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island (BBBSLI) hosted their 21st Annual Golf Tournament at The Muttontown Club in East Norwich, NY. This year's event presented by KeyBank, honoring Tim Foley, brought together 110 golfers and raised more than \$100,000 in support of mentoring on Long Island.



“Our honoree, Tim Foley, hit it out of the park this year. His hard work and passion for our mission helped make this event a great success for us,” said BBBSLI CEO Mark Cox. “I would also like to thank KeyBank for their generosity as presenting sponsor.”

Tournament guests began their day with a breakfast buffet on the outdoor patio, followed by time at the driving range and putting greens. Golfers enjoyed a barbecue lunch, cocktail reception, dinner, awards ceremony and raffles.

During dinner, BBBSLI's mission was brought to life as Big Brother Michael Oliveri spoke about his experience as a mentor. “Becoming a mentor was one of the best decisions of my life. As a Big, there is the opportunity to expose your Little to events and activities they might not otherwise have access to. It has been memorable to share many “firsts” with my Little Brother. Together we went to his first Yankees and Rangers games, his first trip to a college campus, his first play and visit to a museum.”

Congratulations to this year's tournament 1st place winners:

- Team Low Net with a Callaway-handicapped team score of 54 – Don Dantona, John Hunter, Craig Johanson and Brian Loftus
- Men's low gross with a score of 72 – Kyle Mostransky
- Women's low gross with a score of 110 – Katherine Heptig



“Summer Sizzle” 2017

On July 11th, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island (BBBSLI) held their 2017 “Summer Sizzle” Poker Tournament presented by ZBF Geothermal at The Main Event in Farmingdale. Players of all different skill levels doubled down to raise more than \$20,000 in support of youth mentoring on Long Island.

Richard Silvia revealed the championship hand at the coveted final table. Todd Althenn and David Moll finished in 2nd and 3rd Place, respectively. The top prize was a \$2,500 travel voucher. Second prize was a Foursome of Golf at Lawrence Yacht and Country Club and the third-place winner received a “Finest at First” Autographed Baseball Collage valued at \$500.





Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Long Island

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Helen Liriano

Director of Services
Nancy Farrell Travers

Director of Human Resources
Carmelina Vassallo

Senior Manager of Marketing & PR
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Web
www.bbbsli.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

For Registration & Event Details Visit: <http://bbbsli.org/upcoming-events/>



September 16th ride from BBBSLI Westbury Office to Greenport, NY



October 5th at The Inn at New Hyde Park, NY



November 14th at The Main Event
in Farmingdale, NY



December 17th

For sponsorship opportunities or questions please contact
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