



Big Brothers Big Sisters

Big News



SAVE THE DATE!!

Harlem Ambassadors Basketball Team is coming to Las Cruces!

Please join us!
Thursday, December 9, 2010
7:00p.m.

Offering a unique brand of Harlem-style basketball featuring high-flying slam dunks, dazzling ball-handling tricks and hilarious comedy routines, the Harlem Ambassadors are a talented team of both male and female basketball players. Drug free and college educated, the Ambassadors are committed to serving as positive role models for young people.

The event promises to be a night of fun and excitement for the whole family.

The Harlem Ambassadors:

* Will play against a team of local leaders and hometown heroes.

All proceeds of the event benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwestern New Mexico, a local nonprofit organization dedicated to providing successful mentoring relationships for every child who needs and wants one, contributing to brighter futures, better schools and a stronger community.

**Call the office at (575) 523-9530
for more information and tickets!**

October 1, 2010

In This Edition:

C.E.O Message	2
Board "Spotlight"	3
Grant County News	4
July- Sept, Events	5
Thank you Sponsors	6
Celebrations	7
New Matches	8
1 st Mud Volleyball	9
Last quarter Trainings	10

Contact Us:

Stacie Christiano
C.E.O
Stacie.Christiano@bbbs.org

Elaine Lara
Program Director
Elaine.Lara@bbbs.org

Misty Snipes
Fund Development
Coordinator
Misty.Snipes@bbbs.org

Anna Vigil
Enrollment Specialist
Anna.Vigil@bbbs.org

Lisa Womack
Match Support Specialist
Lisa.Womack@bbbs.org

Sarah Fisher
Match Support Specialist
Sarafisher.bbbs@yahoo.com

Betti Madsen
Office Assistant
Elizabeth.Madsen@bbbs.org



Message from the C.E.O

It's incredible how fast this summer has gone by. The agency has had a busy year preparing for events and activities for the program. What a great year! I look forward in seeing the success of the program continue to help serve the children of our community. The success of tomorrow is largely dependent on our children of today. Let's continue to build on that.

I am approaching my third year as CEO of this agency and I would not be here if it wasn't for the wonderful staff and volunteers that I work with everyday. A warm and sincere thank you to Misty Snipes, Elaine Lara, Anna Vigil, Lisa Womack, Sara Fisher, Betti Madsen and the Board of Directors! I truly appreciate all of your hard work, guidance, and on-going support over the years. I am very blessed to work with each one of you in supporting our mission. The time, talent, and resources you all have invested is immeasurable. Again, thank you for all that you do to help further support the program and children of Southwestern New Mexico.

Over the past few months we kicked off our Las Cruces and Silver City Back to School Bash with food, fun, and school supplies. This year's annual Little Moments Big Magic was a big hit, in part, to special guest entertainer David Hira. In accordance to our annual events, we are pleased to announce the huge success of our first Annual Mudd Volleyball Tournament. Thank you to all of the businesses, volunteers and community partners that have supported us. It is with the in-kind support, volunteer hours, and financial donations that make these events possible. Your support helps us continue to grow and reach more children of our community with life-long friendships.

We are thrilled to announce the HARLEM AMBASSADORS are coming to Las Cruces December 9, 2010. Let's get ready for a fun-filled family night of basketball comedy entertainment and the chance for our own Las Cruces team to compete against the Harlem Ambassadors. Come, join the fun, and support us. Please call the office to become a sponsor and reserve your tickets!

I look forward to seeing you at our agency training sessions, Renaissance Fair and our Annual Holiday Party.

On behalf of the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwestern NM staff and Board of Directors we wish you and your families a Happy Halloween, Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Holidays!

Thank you,
Stacie Christiano
Chief Executive Officer
Big Brothers Big Sisters of SWNM

Message from the President



Thank you to all who participated in our Little Moments Big Magic event and Mudd Volleyball!! This year we had an amazing program for Little Moments Big Magic, with special guest and magician David Hira. David really put on a performance that is still talked about today! Thank you David and to our sponsors; SITEL, The Las Cruces Bulletin and the Las Cruces Sun-News and our many sponsors that made this night so very successful! For those Bigs that helped play in our Mudd Volleyball Tournament THANK YOU! We hope you had as much fun as we did. This event took 3 years to plan and to become reality and we were so excited to bring another fundraiser to help our children in our area, by getting a little dirty in our 1st annual "Mudd for Matches" event! Thank you again to all of the teams that participated, our main sponsor SITEL for always supporting our cause and making our dreams a reality and our many other gracious sponsors. The Staff that we have are simply amazing, Misty, Anna, Elaine, Lisa and Stacie really put in incredible effort, staying up late to help create the courts and getting muddy throughout the day, it went flawless and it's all due to your hard effort. This year we had a brilliant Mudd Volleyball Committee that helped put ALL of this together, thank you members: Joel Courtney, Juan Medrano, Kari Shepan, Rick Altamirano and Alyssa Gintant! Your help and strategies really made this a success! And from the bottom of my heart, thank you. As we enter these holidays, let's remember the reason for the season and our future...the kids. Let's try to do all that we can to make sure that we continue our goal to help one "Little" at a time.

Thank you again and God Bless.
Savonne Griffin
Board President
Big Brothers Big Sisters of SWNM

Farewell Anna Vigil!

Dear Friends,

I want to take a moment to let you know that I am leaving my position at Big Brothers Big Sisters of SWNM to start a new phase in my life. Before I go, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to my BBBS families. I want all of you to know that I am truly leaving here with mixed feelings; happy to find out what the future holds for me but sad to be leaving such a wonderful organization.

I would like to say a huge "Thank You" to all the Bigs in the program. Thank you so much for all of your hard work, your passion and commitment to the program and to your Little. The key to my success in this agency rests in people like you, who exemplify strength, character and heart. Thank you for your inspiring dedication and tremendous example to the world.

To all of my Little's, I will truly miss all of you the most. I leave you with this; concentrate on doing things that will have a positive effect on your lives. Choose your friends wisely; listen to your parents, teachers and Big's. Do the very best you possibly can in everything you attempt. Don't look back on the things you would have done, could have done, or should have done. My desire is that you will look back on a long list of accomplishments that happened because you aimed high, took chances, lived up to your potential, and most importantly you did something. I will always consider myself to be your honorary Big Sister.

I have enjoyed my time here and I appreciate having had the opportunity to work with all of you. Whether I am far or near, may I hear only good news of you all. I hope you all will stay in touch through the coming years to let me share in your success. This is not a "goodbye" but a "See you later," for I will be completing my internship at the agency and will continue to be a Big Sister. I hope to see you all at Big Brothers Big Sisters events! ☺

Sincerely,
Anna Vigil





Joel Courtney is the Board Vice-President for Big Brothers Big Sisters of SWNM as well as the Communication & Leadership Director for the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce.

Joel was born and raised in Las Cruces and is a proud graduate of San Andres High School and New Mexico State University. He loves playing games, puzzles, basketball and reading. Joel also studies Krav Maga, Israeli special forces self-defense.

Joel and his wife, Rachel, both love everything about Las Cruces, from the friendliness of the people to the beauty of the high desert and the mountains, the amenities of a large city but still have the closeness and attitude of a small town.

Joel really enjoys serving on the BBBS board because he gets to help children find that connection that is so important. After a few years in the workforce he volunteered with the BBBS organization and has been a Big Brother for nearly 4 years. He loves every minute he gets to spend with his Little Brother Eric Barela. Joel says, "He's such a great kid, and if his influence helps him make even one better decision, then it was all worthwhile."



Fred Espinosa is the local Marketing Consultant for DexOne in Las Cruces, NM. Fred was born and raised here in Las Cruces. After graduation from Las Cruces HS in 1976, he joined the USAF and began his career as a trainer, communicator and journalist. With over 30 years experience in customer service/sales along with Air Force retirement experience in Public Relations, he has had the honor of working with children in the full time Christian Ministry as well as under other charitable capacities.

Fred and his wife Katrinka have three wonderful children, Nathaniel, Denee and Karrie. He loves riding his motorcycle, spending time with his two grandsons and sharing words of encouragement to the many people in his life.

As Las Cruces being his hometown, he appreciates how our community has transformed into a business minded, growth centered leader in the state. The warmth of our natives as well as new residents make this the most welcoming city he has ever lived in. Fred loves being a part of BBBS because of the mixture of cultures and professional experience that makes the program a very diverse group.



Mary Nunez is a School Administrator for Lynn Middle School and has been in education for almost 25 years. Being an educator was a childhood dream that has evolved into a very rewarding career. She has worked with very diverse groups of children at both the elementary and middle school levels.

Mary and her husband Michael of 22 years have two sons, Anthony, 19, is a sophomore at NMSU, majoring in Nursing and Andrew, 17, is a junior at Mesilla Valley Christian School.

Mary and Michael grew up in the Silver City area. They have lived in Las Cruces since 2002 and are enjoying the laid back lifestyle and climate. More than anything they enjoy being close to their families.

Mary loves to read and work on her yard. She also really enjoys traveling whether to Vegas for a weekend or to take in some major league baseball games.

She enjoys being a part of an organization whose mission is rooted in giving back to the youth and providing one to one mentorship opportunities for the community. She looks forward to the future, the working relationships and partnerships that will come from this experience.

Welcome Sara Fisher to our BBBS Family!

Sara Fisher is currently a student at NMSU working towards her BS in Family and Child Science. Sara was born and raised in El Paso, Texas. She moved here to Las Cruces when she was 18 and has been living here and loving it ever since.

Sara has always worked with children and their families and has dedicated herself to building a life around helping those in need. Sara feels blessed to have found a place here with Big Brothers Big Sisters and feels she has found her home. She would like to thank everyone who supports BBBS and wants to thank all the "Bigs" for reaching out and being there for their "Littles".





2010 Back to School Bash was so much fun!

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwestern New Mexico would like to thank all matches that attended the 2010 Back To School Bash, held at the Silver City Bowling Center on July 24th!

Bigs & Littles enjoyed lunch together, some bowling fun and each little was given a new backpack filled with school supplies.

A special thank you to Wal-Mart for being our Back to School Bash Sponsor!



(L)Miriam Cwieka, Invoicing Dept. (Middle) Johnny Williams, Store Manager and (R) Stacie Christiano. C.E.O for BBBS.



Senator Howie C. Morales and Stacie Christiano, C.E.O of BBBS.

Wal-Mart celebrates grand re-opening

Wal-Mart held a grand re-opening of its Silver City store on Friday, September 10, 2010. The event was the culmination of 10 weeks of renovations at the store.

Speakers included Silver City-Grant County Chamber of Commerce Board President Dan Cook, Wal-Mart Store Manager, Johnny Lee Williams, Silver City Town Councilor Cynthia Bettison and Silver City Main Street Board President Lucy Whitmarsh.

Wal-Mart granted nine local non-profits a Wal-Mart community grant to benefit their programs. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwestern New Mexico (BBBS of SWNM) was excited and appreciative to be one of the nine to receive funding from the Wal-Mart Community Foundation program.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff at Big Brothers Big Sisters of SWNM, we sincerely thank Wal-Mart for their support to our Silver City program. Funds received from this grant helped support our annual Back to School Bash and our up-coming agency Holiday Party.

Activities Matches can do Oct-Dec!

October 20th- 12:00 pm Weather Whys and Weather Wise

Weather enthusiasts, weather nuts or the just plain weather-curious will discover facts, myths, phenomena, and oddities in this fascinating look at useful (and sometimes useless) information. The facilitator will take the students on a journey through the curious world of weather, revealing myths and misconceptions, and sharing some weird phenomena. Come fasten your seat belts and discover a world of fascinating weather. Presenter Eric Walker spent a career in aviation spanning nearly forty years in both military and commercial flying. From propellers to the jet age, he has seen weather phenomena around the world. FREE!

Location: WNMU Global Resource Center, ABC Room. **Phone:** 575-538-6835

November 27th 20th Annual Lighted Christmas Parade

Established in 1991, Main Street's Lighted Christmas Parade kicks off the Silver City Holiday Season the Saturday after Thanksgiving. With over 12,000 spectators, the parade is an impressive display of lighted floats and entries. The parade route begins at the Grant County Courthouse, proceeds down Broadway, and heads north on Bullard, ending at Gough Park. Following the parade there is an Awards Reception to honor the top entries in each category.

Location: Broadway and Bullard Streets, Downtown **Phone:** 575-534-9005



Holiday time is almost here!

Save the Date

BBBS Holiday Dinner

December 16, 2010, 6:00pm-8:00pm

(Location to be announced)

Bigs & Littles, come and enjoy a holiday dinner with the BBBS staff!

Please call the office to RSVP by Nov 26th. 575-523-9530.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the staff at Big Brothers Big Sisters of SWNM, a huge thank you to all of our sponsors for their support to our Back to School Bash, Little Moments Big Magic and the Mudd Volleyball event. You helped make our events a success!

Thank you “Back To School Bash” Sponsors:



Albertsons Stores * Aprendamos * Dex One * Fiesta Foods
F.Y.I-Americorps * Las Cruces High School
Mesilla Valley Rotary Club of Las Cruces * Mike Zamora
Molina Healthcare * Office Max * PicQuik Stores * Sam’s Club * Sonic
Staples * Sun-Tech Services * Wal-Mart Stores

5th Annual “Little Moments Big Magic”

Thank you David Hira, for providing outstanding entertainment at our 5th Annual “Little Moments Big Magic” event. Your motivational speaking and magic truly helped make this event memorable & magical!



Congratulations to our Big & Little of the Year!



Big Sister, Tiana Mitchell received the “Big of the Year” award. She was nominated by her Little Sister, Jordyn White who says, “She makes me feel special and I really, really love being with her and she has taught me so much like how to ride a horse; she taught me that I can talk to her about anything.”

Congratulations Tiana Mitchell for winning the 2010 Big of the Year award!



Little Sister, Denise Lopez received the “Little of the Year” award. She was nominated by her Big Sister, Sally Thomas who says, “She is courageous and is always willing to put in the hard work to complete or master anything she tries. I genuinely love her spirit and character and I will be forever thankful that I was allowed the opportunity to be at her side as a Big sister for the remainder of her life’s journey.”

Congratulations Denise Lopez, for winning the 2010 Little of the Year award!

5th Annual
"Little Moments Big Magic"

Miracle Sponsors

Sitel • The Las Cruces Bulletin
The Las Cruces Sun-News

Big Brother Big Sister Sponsors

Memorial Medical Center
Price's Creameries

Little Brother Little Sister Sponsors

Aprendamos • City of Las Cruces • Comcast
El Paso Electric • Kohl's Department Stores • Sam's Club

Mentor Sponsors

ASNMSU • Burger Time/Sisbarro • Cruces Trophy Inc. • Danny Joe Farms
Morning Optimist Club • MountainView Regional Medical Center • PTS Office Systems

Friends Sponsors

Candy Craze • Direct Therapy • Don & Alesia Dutton • First American Bank
FirstLight Federal Credit Union • Insta-Copy Imaging • Molina Healthcare
Roberto Estrada • St. Clair Winery/Southwest Wines
Sunspot Solar Energy Systems, LLC • Surefire Promotional Products
The Print Guys, LLC

Thank you for your support!

Thank you to our additional Sponsors!

Alan's Totally Awesome Images * Apache Village Cabins * Austin's Jewelry & Appraisal
Blackstones Hot Springs in TorC * Casey Cabins * Chris Mitchell * Christopher McDermott * Comcast
Cookie Lee by Jennifer Concha-Trejo * Cruces Trophy Inc. * Dan Dee Cabins * Dex One
Dynamite/Mary Allen Richmond * El Paso's Finest Disco * High Desert Rental * Hotel Encanto
Home Depot * Homemade Gourmet by Dianne Brandt * Johnson's Custom Cleaning * Lowes Home
Improvement * M. Phillips Fine Art Gallery/Studio A.440 * Nessa's Hair, Nail & Skin Care Salon
Parlor Car Bed & Breakfast * Peter Piper Pizza * Picacho Hills Country Club * Picture Frame Outlet
Preston Contemporary Art Gallery * Price's Creameries * Si Italian Bistro * Southwest Alarm & Fire
The Strike Zone * Tony Martinez * Tropical Glow Tanning Salon * Western Playland * World Gym

October

November

December

LITTLES

Tee'yanna M.
Sonia M.
Jovan J.
Eric B.
Taylor G.
Destiny F.
Javier A.
Victoria V.
Cynthia L.
Patricia S.
Sandra B.
Keathon J.
Kimberly B.
Nyssa U.
Hayley G.
Nico F.
Gabriel H.
Jennifer L.
David A.
Ashley A.
Adrian H.

Keegan R.
Brianna Q.
Yazmin R.
Jacob P.
Frankie V.
Hunter P.
Angel G.
Celeste R.
Clairissa M.

Amanda B.
Guadalupe T.
Isabel H.
Cemiah S.
Emilee M.
Brenden H.
Stephanie L.
Shelby B.
Samantha H.
Alexia H.
Marlene D.
Sara C.
Sonya S.
Brianna P.
Jonathan P.
Devin B.
Caitlin M.
Byron P.
Jantzen P.
Yesenia V.

BIGS

Dana M.
Jayne A.
Tennille K.
Jeanette V.
Don K.
Irene O.
Scott M.
Richard P.
Joslynn R.
Michael G.
Kayla C.
Chris D.
Lindsey Z.
Miguel M.
Lucille B.
Kyle W.
Scott W.
Yvonne Q.

Mark L.
Jamar C.
Monita A.
Lanova S.
Tiana M.
Linda M.
Alicia Q.
Eliza E.
James A.
Joshua G.
Bill C.
Andrea D.
Joshua C.
Sara A.

Carlos L.
Naomi M.
Nicholas S.
Peter R.
Claudia R.
Christina A.
Amanda M.
Jerrica G.
Sandra G.
Sefora H.
Herberto C.
Jessie R.
Anna Maria V.
Jessica F.
Anibal C.
Cynthia L.

Sending a warm Birthday wish to our Board Members!

Don Diego - October 9th
Mary Nunez - October 12th
Bill Chadwick - November 1st
Fred Espinosa- December 11th



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Upcoming Training

October Training

Bigs & Littles Training
Thursday, October 28, 2010
BBBS office, 5:30pm-7:00pm
Topic: Financial Literacy Training conducted by FirstLight Federal Credit Union

Please keep in mind that attending these trainings, meet one of the requirements of being a Big. Every Big must attend a minimum of two trainings per year.



Anniversary

OCTOBER

1 year
Sandra & Samantha
Yolanda & Alexia
Terri & Sara
Tiffany & Bianna

2 years
Kara & Amanda
Tiffanie & Roman
Lanova & Marina
Irene & Victoria

3 years
Jeanette & Taylor

9 years
Carlos & Dustan

NOVEMBER

1 year
Ashley & Kimberly
Anna & Justis

2 years
Peter & Daniel

4 years
Tennille & Tee'yanna
Tomas & Ruben

6 years
Haroula & Erin
Becky & Paola

DECEMBER

1 year
Richard & Sonny
Catherine & Hayley

2 years
Amy & Deseree
Frank & Javier
Scott & Ethan
Anthony & Angel
Misty & Samantha
Nicholas & Julian

3 years
Kyle & Joshua

4 years
Joel & Eric



Jacqueline & Jayleen



Susan & Caitlin



Guillermo & Javier



Cynthia & Jade



Jorge & Taylor



O'Neal & David



Alex & Adriana



Hunter & Ken



Lisa & Karina



Kaitlyn & Lyndsey



Darol & Jonathan



Adrian & Jason



Brianna & Kayla



Marissa & Jamie



Mariah & Veronica



Andrew & Adrian



Gabriela & Sandra



April & Destiny

DAAC's Renaissance Arts Faire

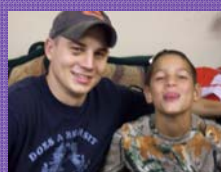
DACC Renaissance Arts Faire
November 6th & 7th

Since 1971, this annual festival has steadily grown and now attracts over 25,000 people to Young Park on the first weekend of November. One of the largest cultural events in Southern New Mexico, this juried art show showcases local and regional artists, crafts-people and entertainers. All proceeds from artist booth fees, food booth fees, non-profit information booth fees and donations at the gates go to support DAAC programs.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of SWNM supports the Faire by selling all drinks for the 2 day event. We provide 6 or more booths, where staff, Board members and volunteers sell Pepsi products.

We are currently seeking many volunteers to help us sell the product at the 6 drink booths.

Please call Misty Snipes for volunteer details at 575-523-9530 or email at misty.snipes@bbbs.org



Jonathan & Trent



Sarah & Terri



Bianna & Tiffany

The following pictures are unavailable:

Bill & Nickohlas
Keathon & Anthony
Kathryn & Melissa



Anna Maria & Roxanna



Breanna & Sara

Join us for our 2010 Holiday Party!

December 2nd - 6:00pm-8:00pm

Alma d'arte Charter School

(402 W. Court Avenue)

Join us for a Holiday dinner & a surprise guest!

Please call office to RSVP by Nov 26th.

575-523-9530





Congratulations to the 2010 Mudd Volleyball Champions!! FirstLight Wrecking Crew



Aaron's "Bigs" Team

Thank you Sitel for being our "Filthy Spike" Sponsor!



Mud Hogs



The Good, The Bad, The Muddy

Thank you Aarons for being our "Dusty Dig" Sponsor!



Nothin' Else Mudders



Kosh Krushers



Average Joe's

Thank you to all sponsors, teams and supporters for helping make a difference in the Mudd!

In-kind Sponsors:

- Athletic Outfitters * Big Daves DJ Service
- Cruces Trophy * Fair Acres Volunteer Fire Department
- Kosh Solutions * Neuro Sports Drinks * Potty Time
- Radio of Las Cruces * Security Concepts
- SNM State Fair and Rodeo
- The Market Store-Robert Paquette * The Uno Advertising

- Prize Sponsors:** 10 Pin Alley * Comic Strip of El Paso
- WhiteWater Weekends in TorC * World Gym

- Drink & Food Vendors:** Budweiser * Dominos * Jesse's KC BBQ

(To view all team and tournament pictures, become a fan on our facebook page)



On Thursday July 8th we held a **Drug Awareness Training** given by two DEA Special Agents. They provided information regarding DEA laws, mission, duties, and the dangers of drugs. The power-point presentation brought together the real life danger drugs and drug use. In effort to pay local tribute to DEA Special Agent Enrique Camarena Red Ribbon Week was started. Now it is the oldest and largest Drug Prevention Program in the Nation. We had a great attendance of staff and participants. Thank you!

On Tuesday August 31st we held a **Gang Awareness Training** given by Sergeant Patrick Doyle from the Las Cruces Police Dept. Sgt Doyle spoke of Designer and clothing companies used as Gang Identifiers, This topic sparked a great discussion amongst the group. He also provided a gang involvement evaluation form to assess gang related behaviors and an adult's quick reference card was given to recognize warning signs that a child may be involved with a gang. We are very pleased to have so many questions from all the Bigs and Little's in attendance. Thank you!



On September 11th we held a **“Girls Just Wanna Have Fun” event**. This training allowed our female matches to connect with one another and staff while being educated and empowered through activities, videos, tips and handouts. This fun filled day gave our matches the opportunity to obtain information on health and beauty while addressing questions and concerns. Activities such as make over's and skin care techniques were enjoyable amongst the matches.



MARY KAY

We would like to thank our speaker Frankie Lawrence from Mary Kay and Hotel Encanto, for providing products to include in our gift bags.

A special thank you to our September Training Sponsor Pedro Andrade from Pic Quik stores for your support!



Big Brothers Big Sisters

of Southwestern New Mexico

1832 W. Amador

Las Cruces, NM 88005

575-523-9530