



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Mid-Florida

Newsletter



August 2011

Match Spotlight: Latifat & Ja'Mes

Big Brothers Big Sisters is proud to announce this month's Match Spotlight, Latifat and Ja'Mes. Latifat volunteers as a mentor and role model to Ja'Mes, and the two represent the impact long-term, one-on-one mentoring can have.



In the last three years, making time to see each other has always been the priority for Latifat and Ja'Mes. The consistency of their activities is one of the key factors that have helped to make their friendship so successful and lasting. Ja'Mes says that she is so thankful to BBBS because it brought her to her BS Latifat.

She says that Latifat is a very inspiring person and that she loves her like if she were her 'real big sister'. Azubah, Ja'Mes mother stated that she is so happy to have Latifat in their lives. Latifat is always available to help her Little set goals for the future as well as to help with school. "Being a big has made a positive impact in my life. I think this is the most selfless I've been. I've had to put someone else before me and think about how my actions will impact someone else. Latifat encourages everyone to take that leap and become a Big. But she claims that being a Big comes with great responsibilities. "There will be tough and rough times; there will be disagreements and miscommunication. But remember that you are the elder sibling and you should handle the situation. Of course, there will also be lots of fond memories and wow, you'll always be making fun memories".

(to read the entire interview visit our website bbbsmidflorida.org)

Community Leader: Kipp Hayes



Kipp Hayes, the CEO and owner of University Pawn and Jewelry, is an outstanding and motivational community leader. He demonstrates commitment to helping children better themselves by volunteering as a community mentor through his church's youth ministry and as a bible study teacher.

Mr. Hayes is currently the Vice President of the Board of Directors of BBBS. Kipp's relationship with BBBS began as a Little Brother, (LB) in our program, where he was matched with his Big Brother (BB), Mark. Kipp believes that he began to grow as a person because of the time and attention Mark showed him, helping him discover who he was and what he really enjoyed. He came from a very rough background, living in the projects of Miami. When he

first moved to Gainesville he lived with his aunt, grandmother, and several siblings. He contributes learning true values from his aunt, grandmother and BB Mark. Today Kipp says that "it doesn't matter where you start in life, because anyone can succeed."

In 1998 when Kipp launched his business, University Pawn & Jewelry, he discovered he was the first African American to apply for a pawn broker's license. He later found out that he comes from a family of firsts. His grandfather was the first African American mail carrier in Gainesville and his dad was the first African American radio talk show host in the Miami area. Kipp's heartfelt desire is that every child and adult, "Believe in themselves, especially when no one else believes in you." No matter what demographic someone comes from, they can make it.

(visit www.bbbsmidflorida.org to read Kipp's entire interview)

To send donations, please visit www.bbbsmidflorida.org.
You may also contact Mr. John Bonacci, john@bbbsmidflorida.org,
or call us at (352) 375-2525.



August Match Anniversaries

6 years

8/15/2005

Benjamin/Jamaal

4 years

8/30/2007

Terence/Mark

2 years

8/13/2009

Jacob/Cam'Ron

1 years

8/11/2010

Shayna/Jakhia

8/12/2010

Natalia/Zeimyra

8/13/2010

Sasha/Shante

8/13/2010

Nicole/Shayonce

8/17/2010

Kelsey/Julana

8/27/2010

James/Zachary

8/31/2010

Kamia/Tia

BIG thanks to our Sponsors

AEC TRUST

ARBY'S FOUNDATION

ALTRIA COMPANY

BEST BUY

GAINESVILLE COM FOUNDATION

GAINESVILLE HEALTH & FITNESS

GAINESVILLE TV NETWORK

JUST FOR CAMPUS

L.J. PERCUSSIONS

MACY'S

NATIONWIDE INSURANCE

PERSONAL ELF

PUBLIX SUPERMKT'S CHARITIES

RT SCHAFFER MASONIC LODGE

SAFEID4FAMILIES INC.

STUDENTS FOR BBBS

THE NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

VANGUARD FOUNDATION



A BIG thanks to Publix Supermarkets Charities

and

Revolution Dancewear

for their generous donations!

Publix's continued support allows Big Brothers Big Sister to provide opportunities for the youth in our community. Their donations help us serve more children and provide activities for our Littles. "Publix's sense of corporate stewardship and desire to help our children sets the standard in our community" said CEO, John Bonacci.

Thanks to Revolution Dancewear. Due to your generosity our Little Spinners, the Color Guard Club, now has the opportunity to dress to impress with your contribution of over 200 costumes and shoes! We could not be more thankful to them for helping make the Little Spinners true performers.

Thank you again, Publix Supermarkets and Revolution Dancewear for supporting your community and the children!

Club Meetings

Meetings for the following clubs:

"Little Ladies" Dance Troupe

"Little Spinners" Colorguard Squad

Little Drummers

Yoga Classes

will reconvene in the fall.

"Little Rebels" Rollerskaters

Wednesday, August 17th 6:30pm to

8pm at Skate Station

1311 NW 76th Boulevard.

If your child is interested in joining our clubs, contact our office at 352.375.2525 or sign up at www.bbbsmidflorida.org.

To send donations, please visit www.bbbsmidflorida.org.
You may also contact Mr. John Bonacci, john@bbbsmidflorida.org,
or call us at (352) 375-2525.



Come Join Us!

**5TH ANNUAL FALL
CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Saturday, September 3rd, 2011

presented by

Macy's

in association with

Publix Supermarkets Charities

and

Free & Accepted Masons of District 14

benefiting

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Mid-Florida

hosted by

Ironwood Golf Course

2100 NE 39th Ave., Gainesville, FL

Early registration appreciated!

*To register, visit our website,
www.bbbsmidflorida.org*

PROGRAM

7:30 am - Registration

*Coffee & donuts available
during check-in*

8:00 am - Shotgun Start

Lunch Banquet

*provided after the tournament for
all golfers and volunteers*

SPONSORS

To present awards at lunch banquet

GOLFERS

GRAND PRIZE - HOLE IN ONE

*Cruise for 4 and/or a
2011 Cadillac SRX sponsored by
Palm Gainesville Cadillac*

1ST PLACE

(approximate value - \$600)
*Foursome of golf at
Amelia Island Plantation Resort*

2ND PLACE

(approximate value - \$300)
*Foursome of golf at
Haile Plantation*

3RD PLACE

(approximate value \$150)
*Foursome of golf at
Ironwood Golf Course*

ON COURSE CONTESTS

Longest Drive

Longest Putt

Closest to the Pin

Closest to center of the Fairway
on each 9

Come join us for a day of fun, activities, lunch and still be home in time for the Gator game.
Change a life through your participation, donations and/or support.

Research shows that when children have Big Brothers or Big Sisters in their lives, they have increased confidence, more success in school and a more positive outlook on life. It costs about \$1,200 a year to support a match between a "Big" and a "Little," which pays for background screening, training and ongoing support and supervision. On the other hand, incarcerating a youth costs \$51,000 a year.

Keeping kids out of trouble is absolutely a worthwhile investment.

But we can't do it alone. Make the Investment. Be a part of something **BIG!**



To send donations, please visit www.bbbsmidflorida.org.
You may also contact Mr. John Bonacci, john@bbbsmidflorida.org,
or call us at (352) 375-2525.



Earn a Scholarship While Volunteering!

Students at the University of Florida and Santa Fe College have the opportunity to earn a scholarship while they volunteer their time towards mentoring our youth! This is made possible by Florida Campus Compact, a national presidential membership organization that is committed to helping students develop values and skill through participation in community service. They have partnered with AmeriCorps to create the College Access AmeriCorps Program which offers scholarships to college students for mentoring at-risk youth and participating in community service.

Students will receive an educational award amount based on the set number of hours that the student chooses. For 300 hours of service they will receive \$1,132 and for 450 hours of service \$1,415. They also have the options of serving 600 and 900 hours. There are a few requirements for the program. Volunteers have to mentor a child in grades 6-12 within the Alachua County Public School District for at least one hour every week. Additionally, they will be attending month meeting geared towards increasing their civic knowledge and professional development through the Center for Leadership and Service. Lastly, students can decide what type of mentoring program they would like to volunteer the rest of their hours at!

Big Brothers Big Sisters is an example of a great place to volunteer at, as well as afterschool programs.

Mentees are given one year to complete the number of service hours they signed up for, which for this year will be September 1st, 2011 thru August 31st, 2012. Applications for the University of Florida can be found on their Center for Leadership and Service website. Angela Garcia can also be contacted at (352) 392-1215 ext. 268 for any further questions. Students at Santa Fe Community College need to contact Aminah Nichols at aminah.nichols@sfcollege.edu or (352) 395-5268 to apply.

Applications through both schools are due by August 31st at midnight.

The spots for the experience to provide leadership and community service for a scholarship have filled up quickly. According to Angela Garcia, at the UF Center for Leadership & Service, "there are only spots available to complete 300 hours". The College Access AmeriCorps Program is not guaranteed to be available every school year.

Don't miss this great opportunity to help a child who needs a mentor and friend, and earn a scholarship while doing it!

UPCOMING EVENTS

ALACHUA COUNTY



Saturday, August 20th, 2011

**Gainesville Roller Rebels
vs Ft Myers Derby Girls**

At Skate Station Funworks,
1311 NW 76th Blvd.

Doors open 8:15pm and the
bout begins 9:00pm

Tickets are free for Kids, 12 & under
Parents and/or family members
\$8 in advance or \$12 at door

Saturday, September 3rd

**5TH ANNUAL FALL CLASSIC
GOLF TOURNAMENT**

at Ironwood Golf Course

2100 NE 39th Ave., Gainesville, FL

Registration 7:30am

Shotgun 8:00am

Save the Date!

Thursday, September 1, 2011

6:30pm - 8:30pm
02B Kids Supercenter
Newberry Road

iMentor
gainesville
2011

FREE Event!

Guest Hosts...



Danny Wuerffel

Nathan Whitaker

*Picture yourself making a difference...
and making a friend.*

Come learn from Danny & Nathan
how you can impact the
lives of children and families
in Alachua County.



Brought to you by The Mentor Center...
An Initiative of the Gainesville Community Foundation



mentors

BECOME A BIG AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Mid-Florida

1155 NW 13th St. • Gainesville, FL 32601

www.bbbsmidflorida.org

P. 352-375-2525 • F. 352-375-0319

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

AUTHENTIC WOMEN'S FLAT TRACK ROLLER DERBY

**SKATE
STATION
FUNWORKS**
(1311 NW 76TH BLVD,
GAINESVILLE FL)

LIFESOUTH
BLOODMOBILE
OPENS AT 7:30 PM
FIRST 10 ON-SITE
DONORS IN
FREE!

DOORS OPEN AT 8:15 PM
BOUT STARTS AT 9:00 PM



PRINTED ON
RECYCLED
PAPER

Derby Watching



THANK YOU
SPONSORS!
SKATE STATION,
BOBBY K,
PARIS LEAF,
MAUDE'S

GAINESVILLE ROLLER REBELS VS FORT MYERS DERBY GIRLS

PRICE: \$8 advance, \$12 at the door, 12-and-under free

BUY TIX AT: BrownPaperTickets.com & Sweet Dreams Ice Cream (3437 W. University Ave. Gainesville)

GAINESVILLEROLLERREBELS.COM

DESIGN & ILLUSTRATION BY SETH RUSSELL - WWW.SETHRUSSELL.COM