



GREETINGS FROM GILLIAN

BBBS OF Rockland County matches children facing adversity with rigorously screened adult volunteers in relationships designed to expand horizons and change the trajectory of their lives. Although, the children we serve come from all walks of life, they have one thing in common - they each need and want a mentor. Of the children in our program 91% live in a single-parent home, 66% live in poverty, and/or have an incarcerated family member. Looking to help? Please call (845) 634-2199 x4!

Big Brothers Big Sisters is the only mentoring program in Rockland County, established by Charter in 1984 as a direct result of the dissolution of the Rockland County Youth Bureau's Friends and Volunteers in Probation program. The mentoring partnership is based on the unique model of a one-to-one relationship and is in effect 365 days a year and can last up to 11 years targeting children and youth ages 7 – 18 years of age who need us most, including those living in single parent homes, growing up in poverty and coping with parental incarceration.

Making these matches and performing all the background work involved with child safety as our number one concern, is a testimonial to our mission of supporting and upholding positive youth development and advocating encouragement in areas of collective and communal support for Rockland's disadvantaged families, both in their health and, wellbeing.

The outcome of this partnership? The mentee's self-esteem increases and attitudes toward school and relationships with family and friends improve substantially.

Studies by independent research groups have shown that the Big Brothers Big Sister programs back up these assertions and that 67% of former Littles surveyed, agree that their Big played a role in their decision to attend college. This year, courtesy of the Rockland County Legislature, 4 of our youth graduated from our program at the age of 18 and have registered for college.

On another note, I am happy to report that BBBS alleviates some of the worry that families feel about camp attendance for their children. How? Well, we have a volunteer who comes into the office each week and sends out to her sphere of influence, appeal letters asking for camp sponsorships! Yes, Judie not only receives enormous amounts of support for camp attendances but she and her family provide matching funds so that many of our BBBS kids have a chance to experience summer camp !

Soooo, if any of you reading this newsletter is looking to improve the lives of our county's children, why not consider supporting Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rockland? We are a NYS Better Business Bureau accredited non-profit charitable organization and our mission is validated through partial funding support by the government of Rockland County, its Villages and Towns. Corporate and individual grants as well as fundraising help our cause and directly support the children in our community. Funding to us is not just a donation it's an investment in a child's future. For further information, please call: 845 634 2199 or to donate online: www.bbbsofrc.com

Your financial support goes far and helps us provide our programs and services in your community—so we can develop more college grads, community leaders and entrepreneurs as well as other things, like:

- recruiting new Big Brother and Big Sister volunteers
- covering the costs of background checks, while ensuring trained professionals match Littles to responsible Bigs
- enabling ongoing supervision and relationship support for every Big, Little and Little's family
- providing cultural and social activities to enrich the opportunities for children

Best wishes to all for a safe, healthy and fun summer season!

UPCOMING EVENTS



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rockland County will be having a table at the Palisades Mall on two dates in August. Come check us out!

- **8/11: Food Court- Disney Store**
- **8/12: Food Court- Nathan's**

Palisades Center Mall

1000 Palisades Center Dr, West Nyack, NY 10994.



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rockland County will be having an information table at the Haverstraw Kings Daughters Public Library on two dates. Please come and see us!

- **8/20: 1-3 pm**
- **9/12: 1-3 pm**

Haverstraw Kings Daughters Public Library

10 W. Ramapo Rd, Garnerville, NY 10923.



Stony Point Fit Body Boot Camp is holding a Bootcamp Fundraiser for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rockland County on **Sunday, Sept. 9th** at Lowland Park in Stony Point to sponsor a child or children living in Stony Point or North Rockland between the ages of 10-16 who have been traumatized in some way.

The bootcamp will be in the park with three (3) session times:

- 8:30am
- 9:30am
- 10:30am

This event will include raffle prizes and/or a 50/50 drawing, in effort to raise additional funds. There is a minimum \$5 donation to attend with the option to donate more if you wish. There will be water and protein bars available as well. We hope to see you there!

Lowland Park in Stony Point

36 Lowland Hill Rd; Stony Point, New York 10980.