BBBS QUARTERLY

THE LATEST BIG NEWS, VIEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bermuda

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You can also find us on:

COVER STORY:

BBBS DRIVE THRU HALLOWEEN

Pictured above: Some of our Littles having a little fun!

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bermuda held its 2nd Annual FREE BBBS Drive-Thru Halloween Event at CHUBB on Halloween Eve 2021 from 6pm - 8pm! After last year's overwhelming response and issues with traffic, we decided to make it a sign-up "invitation only" event! (People could also call or email the office and receive details) The stream of traffic was steady and every child left with a smile on their faces (so did the parents). The amount of items we were able to give to each child from our sponsors was AMAZING!!!

Our volunteers dressed in costume and made people feel welcome as they entered. The music was blaring and Power Girl (our Managing Director) was on the mic greeting everyone! The first stop was getting your picture taken, and the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th stops were receiving an assortment of goodies!

Since we are a charity we relied on our community partners and volunteers to help us make this possible! We had the most amazing volunteers who jumped right in to get the job done! (However, they also a ball!!!) Thank you BBBS volunteers... we appreciate you!!!

Bbbs Drive-thru Halloween

continued...

A HUGE thank you to our sponsors BGA, Dunkley's, Phoenix Stores, Hot-Air Designs and A&M Bulk for your support and friendship! You truly helped us to make the children very happy! A special thank you to Tony Bean of TABfotos for photographing our families! We also would like to thank CHUBB for our awesome location and your phenomenal staff! We are truly grateful!

We have to thank our BBBS staff Monique & Patrina, the BBBS Events Team and Board Members (including our Board Chair Syrica who worked from start to finish) for truly executing a memorable event! We also have to give a special thank you to Kristen Carreiro our newest events team member for truly being a superstar!

Thank you to all of our BBBS Family and extended Family for coming out to enjoy a great evening. We did this for the children as they have had so much taken from them over the last 2 years. They deserve to have some fun and get a few special treats. To see the smiles on their faces was priceless!!

Dolphin Quest

In November, the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bermuda Family were invited to join Dolphin Quest and help them celebrate 25 years!! Our families had such a great time learning about the dolphins and even got to feed them !! We split everyone into two groups - one group went at 11am and the other group at 1:30pm. After each session everyone was treated to lunch at Bonefish Grill! It was a truly great day!!! We can't wait to go again. The food and service at Bonefish Grill was delicious!

Thank you so much to Sundee and Christine at Dolphin Quest for organizing such an awesome day! Also, a BIG thank you to Filippo and the staff at Bonefish Grill for accommodating us and making us feel so welcome.

Marsh Christmas

Every year the staff at Marsh come together to make a difference in the lives of our Littles. A few years ago, they came up with the Christmas Shoebox initiative where they would provide gifts to help our young people explore their passions and talents or fulfill a need. The items provided have helped our children to take their dreams a step further and have also helped to meet needs. We want to say a big Thank You to everyone at Marsh for your kindness and generosity to our BBBS Family.

Pictured above: Our Managing Director, Patrina and our Office Coordinator, Monique wheeling in gifts for our children

Bbbs Food Pantry

When the staff of a company make giving back a personal thing... Miracles happen! The staff of Athene believed in the vision and helped to bring it into fruition. On Monday, December 13, 2021, 2 1/2 large truck loads of necessity items were delivered to Evening Light Pentecostal Church (ELPC) for BBBS to provide for our families and those in the community with a need through Child and Family Services, Foster Care Association, Summerhaven, The Mirrors Programme, schools, churches and nominations. These items were hand selected and donated from each individual staff member of Athene. They donated what they would provide for their own families. The recipients were able to walk around like they were in a grocery store and select what they needed. We had food items, toiletries, cleaning products... you name it, we had it! And yes, we followed COVID protocols, although there were times that a hug was given, and tears were shed! To the staff of Athene, you have no idea the lives you have helped us to touch in a huge way through this donation and during a pandemic. People who usually don't struggle are now facing the struggle. It has been hard for everyone! This is why it is so important for us all to come together as one! Through this deed, we proved the power of working together. It's not about Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bermuda or Athene... it is about our Bermuda community. Together, we can rebuild our Village.
Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to assist; we appreciate you so much!

Also, a BIG shoutout to Pastors Jonathan and Candice Lambe of Evening Light Pentecostal Church (ELPC) for allowing us to use the church hall as our pantry AND to the members of the church for helping to unpack, sort items and manage the pantry! Thank you for being a part of our village!!

Christmas Hampers

Thank you so much to Michael Dunkley for providing 10 of our BBBS Families with a turkey and a special Christmas Hamper (which included some Dunkley's Milk and Egg Nog- which is a Bermudian Christmas classic! - and other food items) We appreciate your giving spirit and your willingness to always help families in Bermuda! You are truly appreciated! Thank you for being a part of the BBBS Village!!

Young Philanthropist

2-year-old Joshua Blake making his family's annual donation to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bermuda. In December 2020, he came to see us and wasn't sure if he wanted to let the donation go! But this year, he proudly handed the envelope over! He is so precious! It's never too early to teach children the importance of giving back.

Thank you to Joshua and the Blake family for being a part of our village.

Rosa's Wishlist

Christmas is not an easy time for everyone, and most parents struggle to put food on the table and buy their children Christmas gifts. Every year our friends at Rosas/Chopsticks allow our Littles to make a wish list of items that they would like and then reach out to the Bermuda community to help fulfill these requests. Our parents are always grateful for this help and the Littles are always excited about the gifts. It is a pleasure to work with Lindsay and the team at Rosas as they truly care about Bermuda's youth. We want to say a big Thank You to Rosas/Chopsticks and everyone in the community that donated gifts - your kindness and generosity to our BBBS Family is truly appreciated.

Pictured above: Our Managing Director, Patrina and Lindsay of Rosa's alongside Junior Elf, Laundyn delivering wishlist items for our Littles

Max and Dr. John Carlos

Thank you to our Community Partner Fidelis for giving Little Brother Max the opportunity of meeting Legend - Dr. John Carlos! John gave Max words of encouragement and the inspiration that he needed! Max also got a lesson in history from someone who had experienced it and created it first hand! He was also given a copy of John's comic book "The Power of Reason". He will NEVER forget this day!

These experiences are very important for our youth!

Necheeka Trott

Big shoutout to Necheeka Trott who created special goodie bags just for our BBBS Book Club Girls!! The bags were full of items that every young lady needs!!

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Thank you so much Necheeka!!!

Bid Box Bda

A BIG shoutout to @bidboxbda for donating Bidboxes for some of our BBBS Family! When you receive a Bidbox it is something to celebrate! As you can tell from this BBBS Parent we are pretty excited about these boxes!!

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Bidboxbda is an online subscription service that connects consumers directly to brands by delivering a curated sample box filled with products for the consumer to try in the comfort of their own home.

New Match Highlights

We are very excited to see our BBBS Family growing!!
Remember, everyone has something to offer, however small you think it is, it matters! Consistency is KEY!
You can be a part of our family too! Email us at bbbs@bbbs.bm for further information!

BBBS New Match Alert!!!
Introducing: Big Sister Deborah and her Little Sister Jayari!

BBBS New Match Alert!!!
Introducing: Big Sister LaWanda and her Little Sister Ny-Asia!

BBBS New Match Alert!!!
Introducing: Big Brother Jonari and his Little Brother Nijasz!

Littles Giving Back

Our Shining Starr

Our Little Sister, Starr was appointed to The Student Lighthouse Team at Francis Patton Primary School. It's the Leadership Team that ensures faculty and students are using the school's values and practicing the 7 Habits on a daily basis.

Congratulations Starr!!! Your BBBS Family are proud!!

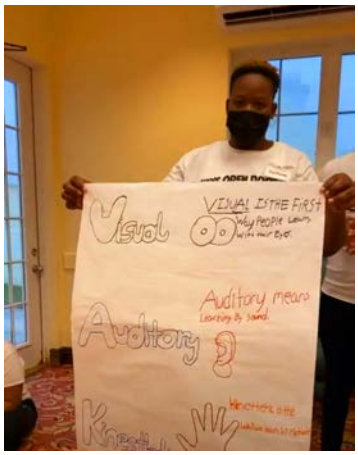
T'ziyah The Braver

Our Little Brother, Ta'Ziyah is now a "Braver" in the Raleigh Bermuda Family! He had the opportunity of being a part of their "I Am Brave: Youth Against Violence" Midterm Camp that took place on the October Midterm Break. These pics were when they had to use their "trangia" skills, where they cooked brunch for the Raleigh Alumni Family which included pumpkin cinnamon pancakes and fresh vegetables with scrambled eggs. He loved this experience with Raleigh Bermuda!

Ta'Ziyah then transformed into a werewolf to volunteer for the Western Zone Community Centre's Halloween Goodie Bag Giveaway on Saturday, October 30th 2021. He could be seen at 3 locations giving out goodie bags to the public promoting the Western Zone Community Centre. He played this role with his whole heart.

Ta'Ziyah took part in the Mirrors Coaching for Success Residential Program on the weekend of November 5th – November 7th at the Willowbank Resort & Conference Center. They helped to develop the children's skills in teamwork, communication and effective change. He enjoyed his time there and found the information and resources beneficial.

Ta'Ziyah is a Royal Bermuda Regiment Junior Leader and had the pleasure of doing an overnight camp at Warwick Camp from Friday, November 19th – Saturday, November 20th 2021. The JL's had lessons on patrols, section formations, hand signals and let's not forget to mention rifle training!! Zy is in love with being a Junior Leader. Well done Ta'Ziyah!! It's great to see our children taking advantage of the opportunities presented by our community partners.



Bursary Recipient

Congratulations to Benjamin "Ben" Edwards, who is the recipient of our Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bermuda Bursary of $3,800 sponsored by Kitson Group of Companies! Thank you to Kitson for helping us to invest in our youth!

Ben is currently pursuing his Bachelor of Commerce degree at Carleton University, in Ottawa, Canada.

At BBBS, even after children age out of the programme at 18, we still consider them to be a part of the BBBS family. In 2022, we are also investing in BBBS Beyond, where we assist our youth with resume writing, job interviewing skills, and other skill sets to help prepare them for the real world. We want to be there for our 'Littles' every step of the way.

"The BBBS programme is one of the best experiences I have had. I have made the best connections through this programme and have gotten to experience a lot more than I would have due to the family of people who are always keen and engaged in making you a better and more developed young person. I will be ever thankful to Patrina for taking a keen interest in me and becoming one of my biggest supporters".

Benjamin Edwards

Pictured above: BB Stephen DeCouto with his LB Benjamin Edwards

Former Little Gives Back

Pictured left: Former Little Cameron presenting to our Little Brother Anias

Former Little Brother Cameron Jeffers has his own cricket gear company called J2 Cricket and he wanted to offer a full kit to a Little Brother who was passionate about the game.

Little Brother Anias was the recipient of a gear bag, a bat, cricket pads and gloves. We are in awe of the man that Cameron is becoming and just to think he has been a part of the BBBS Family since he was 5! He was even featured in our 2008 ad campaign!

Cameron thank you so much! You are proof of what our programme is all about! We love you!!

Virtual Not Happenin' Nye Party

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bermuda held our annual Not Happenin' NYE Party on Friday, December 31. Due to the rise in COVID cases which led to curfew restrictions, we held our not happenin' party and people were able to celebrate at home!!! Thank you to everyone that donated! We are truly grateful for your friendship and support!

Coming Up Soon!!

We are very excited about our upcoming events!!

Unlocking Potential!

Girl Power Book Club

Boys 2 Men Cohort 2 - MASC Bermuda