BBBS QUARTERLY

THE LATEST BIG NEWS, VIEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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COVER STORY: BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS - BIGS OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to our 2021 Big Brother and Big Sister of the Year Mr. Corville Hylton and Ms. Jennifer Howard!!

Corville has mentored 5 Little Brothers in the BBBS Program! He is truly committed to making a difference in the lives of Bermuda's youth! Now, 16 years on, and he has just won the Big Brother of the Year award — for the second time.

Mr. Hylton, a police constable who is “Big Brother” to two 14-year-old boys, Ta-Ziyah Kelly and Keizae Tankard, said: “I am a police officer and joining Big Brothers is something I thought was necessary because some of our young men need guidance so they will not end up meeting me in other places.
Contributing to them will help us as police officers. We see a lot of young men who could do incredibly well in their lives but don’t have that person who believes in them and encourages them — that can set them back. They need someone to cheer them on and encourage them.”

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COVER STORY: BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS - BIGS OF THE YEAR CONTINUED...

Ms. Howard has been “Big Sister” to Asaiya Brangman, 15, since 2017.

Ms. Howard said: “I wanted to give back to the community but I think I get a lot from it too — especially watching Asaiya grow and develop.
She was quiet and softly spoken but she is so confident now. Her long-term goal is to go overseas. She is interested in physiotherapy and occupational therapy.
She lost her mother at a really young age and she doesn’t have a mother figure. This has created a lot of support for her. I have made a friend and a sister for life.”

Ms. Howard said: “We are so similar. We have the same sense of humour and the same interests.
“We do anything and everything. Her favourite activity is going to the aquarium. She feels comfortable there.
“Family is important to both of us, so she spends time with my family and I spend time with hers.”

Joan Butterfield, Asaiya’s great-grandmother, added: “They bake together, go to the movies, she goes to Jennifer’s mom’s house. It has been wonderful for her.”

UNLOCKING POTENTIAL

Pictured Above: Professional Soccer Player Mr. Nahki Wells

BBBS launched our Zoom series "Unlocking Potential!" back in January with our first guest, Bermudian Football Super Star, Mr. Nahki Wells! It was a question and answer session where our Managing Director presented questions sent in by the children. These questions were emailed earlier, and some were put in the LIVE Zoom chat box. Then, we opened the mic and let the children ask questions LIVE! Our children are even tougher than journalists! Nahki talked about growing up and his path to success in the soccer world! He shared about what his life is like now and gave powerful advice based on the questions asked. He shared some of his favorite things, and the children even had a big surprise about if he was a Marvel or DC fan, when he revealed he wasn't a fan of either one!! He was so down to earth that the children felt like they were talking to a friend. They were glued to their screens!!

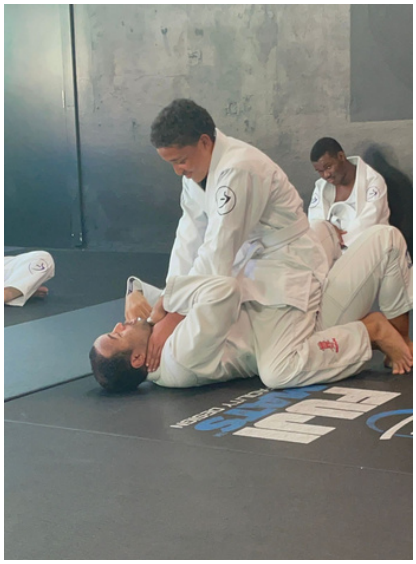
Pictured Above: Local Professional Boxer Mr. Nikki Bascome and our Managing Director: Mrs. Patrina O'Connor-Paynter

Our second guest speaker was Professional Boxer, Mr. Nikki Bascome! Nikki was truly open and honest with the children about his journey. His story is powerful!! They were amazed to hear everything he had been through and how he has turned his life around.

I think he even made a few of us shed some tears. The children (and adults) were glued to their screens!
And by the way, he is a Marvel fan! (Which won a lot of them over at the beginning!)
Nikki, we are so proud of you! We can't thank you enough for this opportunity. You realize the importance of mentorship and want to help young people stay on the right path.

On behalf of our BBBS Family THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU To You Both! As we mentioned, you are now both a part of our BBBS Family! We know we will be working with you again in the near future!

ACRISURE RE MENTORING PROGRAMME



BBBS has recently partnered with Acrisure Re and started a mentoring programme with our littles. The first activity they have started is bi-weekly Jiu Jitsu with Mikko Trott of the Legitsu Academy. They will be building on self-respect, confidence, and awareness while learning self-defense tactics. Our children are really enjoying this experience and the staff at Acrisure Re are amazing! We are so proud of our BBBS Family!! Looking forward to our next activity!

NEGOTIATION SKILLS FOR WOMEN

The Chamber of Commerce hosted a Virtual workshop called Negotiation Skills for Women, in honor of International Women's Day. The workshop was presented by world-renowned speaker, Fotini Iconomopoulos. Fotini is the author of HarperCollins' Award-winning "Say Less, Get More: Unconventional Negotiation Techniques to Get What You Want".

Participants were able to learn:

a. the mindset required to get what they want
b. to manage the derogatory negotiation perceptions for women
c. subtle communication techniques to avoid giving away power
d. about the double bind of likeability in negotiation and how to leverage it.

Our ladies really enjoyed gaining new skills and knowledge when it comes to negotiating successfully for themselves and being able to overcome fear by Finding their Voice.

Thank you very much to The Chamber of Commerce!

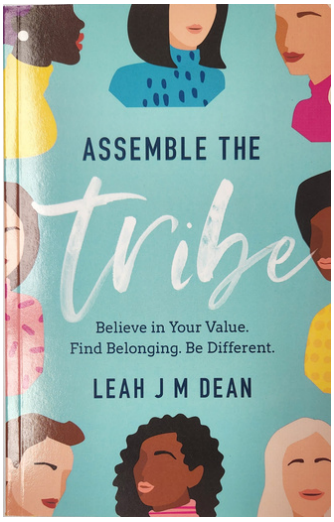
"Thank you for granting me this opportunity to learn as I navigate my path in my career. I learned lots today that I will be sure to do when the circumstances arise. I found my voice and I will practice how to say less to get more."

"Very powerful and informative ladies. Thank you once again."

- Clarika Hall

Pictured Above: Participant Ms. Clarika Hall

GIRL POWER BOOK CLUB



Our book club has officially launched!! Can you tell how excited we are?! We are currently reading "Assemble The Tribe: Believe in your Value.' Find Belonging. Be Different" by Bermudian Author Leah H. Dean. This book is a great tool designed to help girls and women to build and navigate relationships with each other. So if you haven't already, grab your copy today!

BOYS 2 MEN

BBBS is excited to have launched their second cohort of our Boys 2 Men Programme partnership with MASC Bermuda (males only counselling service). With the help of our newly formed partnership, we are able to facilitate peer support groups for our boys. We separated the groups with the Primary and lower Middle School boys in one Group and Upper Middle and High School in the other group. In these groups, the boys are able to see that their peers are facing similar challenges and receive support. This makes them realize that they are not alone in their struggles and helps them to learn how to support each other by finding solutions. Each young man in this group is able to authentically express themselves, feel listened to and valued. They are empowered to speak their truth and are encouraged to take responsibility for their choices. The sessions are every Monday and Wednesday.

GIBBONS GIVES BACK

A BIG shout-out to Gibbons Company, as we are delighted to announce that we, at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bermuda, were the beneficiary charity chosen for their Charity Shopping Days back in March!

On Thursday, March 3rd, customers were allowed to donate a minimum of $5 at any Gibbons Company cash register and receive a discount code for 20% off of regular merchandise!

All Funds raised went towards our Boys 2 Men and Girl Power Programmes!

Thank You Gibbons Company!

FIDELIS MENTORING SESSIONS RESUME

Our weekly in-person mentoring sessions have been able to resume at Fidelis. With weekly COVID testing done in the schools, we were confident that we could start back up again safely. We have gained some new Mentors and the children are excited to be able to get back in the office. We are proud of our littles and are excited about what this partnership has to offer for them. Along with the mentorship programme, some of our Littles also get the opportunity to volunteer with their mentors at Eliza Dolittle Food Bank on the weekends.

- Various Duties Included: Egg Cartons - re-sizing dozen egg carton to half-dozen; packaging of loose produce into individual packages / packaging of various grocery contents into grocery bags based on household size; registration check-in
- Beneficiaries: various segments of the population including the homeless. Majority of their clientele is registered in their system so that the food pantry can anticipate the needs of that household.
- Grocery Item Particulars: basics include eggs, bread, vegetables; dietary nuances – vegan, diabetic, gluten-free; specialty nuances - pop-top canned food for the homeless
- Menu Planning: basics of food items stay the same however some food items are switched up throughout the weeks, i.e. Week #1 – might get ketchup, Week #2 – might get peanut butter, etc.
- Dietary Planning: introduction of vegetables and other healthier food choices is directly related to Fidelis' contribution.
- Impact: our contribution is significant and impactful particularly for those that are disadvantaged within our population. We tend to take these basics for granted until we recognize the impact of what it means for those who benefit.

Thank you Fidelis for your continued support of our programme!

HONORING OUR MANAGING DIRECTOR

Pictured above: Head Girl Abani Rewan Jones and Head Boy Maven Lightbourne with Mrs. Patrina O'Connor Paynter

Children from St. David's Primary School along with their Principal Mr. Gladstone Thompson, showed their appreciation and honoured our Managing Director for her work in the community.

She delivered a virtual assembly to the whole school about self-image and confidence. Unbeknownst to her, the Principal and Head Girl and Head Boy were waiting outside with a huge surprise! They gave her balloons and a $200 donation for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bermuda.

Congratulations! We celebrate you!

HARVARD CHORAL PERFORMANCE

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bermuda was the Charity chosen to receive a donation from The U.S Consulate General, when the Harvard University Krokodiloes and the Radcliffe Pitches came to the island to perform. The concert was free however, attendees were able to donate funds for our benefit.