



Agency Coronavirus Response
March 13, 2020

Together, we are facing an unprecedented health crisis in our community. In our response to COVID-19, we must depend on the knowledge and guidance of the [Butler County Board of Health](#), [Ohio Department of Health](#), and the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) as well as our elected officials. In accordance with that guidance, and to protect the health and safety of the children, families, and volunteers we serve, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Butler County is implementing the following protocols:

Run 4 Kids 5k Walk/Run

The Run 4 Kids 5k Walk/Run event, which had been scheduled to be held April 26th has been postponed until summer. Further details will be provided soon. All current registrations, sponsorships, and donations will be honored for the rescheduled event. Please direct any questions about the Run 4 Kids to Ashley Wilson at Ashley.Wilson@bbbsbutler.org.

Site-Based Mentoring Programs

In accordance with Governor DeWine's mandated 3-week closure of K-12 schools in Ohio beginning Monday, March 16th, all Big Brothers Big Sisters site-based mentoring programs in elementary schools have been suspended and will remain suspended until schools are back in session and authorize the continuation of our programming.

Community-Based Mentoring Programs

Bigs and Littles/Mentors and Mentees in our community-based mentoring program can continue to meet based on the discretion of the child's family and the volunteer. Matches are advised to avoid mass gathering spaces when meeting. If any Bigs have questions or need ideas for safe match meeting activities or advice on how to talk to their Littles about the concern surrounding the Coronavirus, they are encouraged to reach out to their Match Support Specialist.

Club of Unmatched Littles (COUL)

Until further notice, our office will not be facilitating any in-person activities for the Club of Unmatched Littles (COUL). We will communicate updates directly with Littles' families as circumstances warrant.

Enrollment of new Bigs and Littles

Until further notice, our office remains open and able to accept online applications and inquiries via phone for adults to become a Big Brother or Big Sister, and for parents or guardians to enroll their child as a Little Brother or Little Sister. In-person enrollment interviews will be scheduled on a case-by-case basis.

General Precautions

All our Big-Little matches are advised **not to meet** if any party has:

- Recently traveled to a high or medium risk area
- Come in contact with anyone with the virus
- Shows signs of any illness

As recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and local health departments please be sure to:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Cover any coughs or sneezes
- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds and more frequently
- Stay home if you are sick
- Clean/disinfect frequently touched objects or surfaces

For more information about the COVID-19, please visit the Ohio Department of Health's website at <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov> or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website at <https://www.cdc.gov/>.

We understand that this situation is evolving rapidly throughout Butler County, and we will keep our network informed of any updates as needed. Should you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our staff. We appreciate your support of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Butler County, and your shared dedication to the safety and well-being of the children, families, and volunteers we serve.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Winslow, CEO
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Butler County

Contact us:

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