

Big Sister

Bulletin

BIG SISTER ASSOCIATION OF GREATER BOSTON

Happy New Year!

Dear Friends,

We are now in the throes of a new year, complete with hopes, dreams, and plans to support the girls of Greater Boston. Last year, through our collective actions, we helped more than 2,600 girls unlock the potential within them through the care and support of a Big Sister. These relationships are nurtured by our professional staff who provide guidance, advice and encouragement to Big Sisters, Little Sisters, and their families. In addition, we have formed partnerships with many local organizations that are also deeply committed to the healthy development of girls.

When **The American City Coalition (TACC)**, catalyzed an initiative to serve girls in the Harbor Point Housing Development, we joined a coalition that recognized that vibrant, sustainable neighborhoods are built on more than houses. With TACC, **The Harbor Point Tenants Task Force**, and **Housing Opportunities Unlimited**, we are improving the quality of life for girls in this housing development by matching them with caring adult mentors.

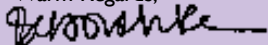
For more than five years, we have worked with **The Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce Women's Network** to raise awareness about the issues facing girls in Greater Boston, and the need for mentors. In 2012, the **Women's Network Advisory Council** expanded the partnership by becoming Big Sisters in our Big For A Day program, engaging in fun, educational opportunities with Little Sisters who are waiting to be matched with a Big Sister.

Boston Cares sends a team of volunteers to Big Sister each month to complete a range of administrative projects that help us keep operating costs low. These volunteers also coordinate activities at our annual program events to ensure that each and every match has a meaningful experience. They step in where needed with services large and small, public and private, which are vital to our organization.

We believe that every individual has the potential to make an impact on our organization and ultimately, the girls we serve. Our donors are instrumental in sustaining our ability to reach more girls through financial investments in our programs; our volunteers and board members help us spread the word about the importance of our work; our alumnae network advocates on behalf of girls; our diversity council ensures that our staff and our mentors represent the community in which we serve; our Young Professional Board raises awareness among emerging philanthropists and recruits women to become Big Sisters; parents and guardians collaborate with Big Sisters and recommend our services across the community. Indeed, it does take a village.

We are blessed to have individuals and organizations in this region working on behalf of our Little Sisters. It's because of you, that so many girls are now thriving and realizing their dreams. We wish you all a new year that opens your world to new possibilities and fulfills your best intentions.

Warm Regards,



Deborah Re
Chief Executive Officer



Mark Your Calendar

FOR BIG SISTER'S 2013 EVENTS!

January 22: National Mentoring Month Celebration

March 19: Fashion Show

May 4: Boston Lemonade Day

May 13: Annual Meeting

June 2: Celebrity Chef Dinner

July: Big Sister Summer Picnic

July 31: BMW Raffle Drawing

September 28: Rodman Ride

October: Big Sister Halloween Party

November: Big in Boston

December: Winter Wonderland Party

ISSUE 20 | WINTER 2013

Highlights

- ★ Big in Boston: Every Girl, a Masterpiece
- ★ Celebrating National Mentoring Month
- ★ The Holiday Season at Big Sister Association



Big Sister Association
of Greater Boston

Share your thoughts with us!
E-mail: nwhite@bigsister.org

Big in Boston

Big Sister Association of Greater Boston honored women's health advocate Dr. Paula Johnson on Saturday, November 10, 2012, at our annual Big in Boston gala with the Believe In Girls (B.I.G.) Award. More than 400 guests attended to celebrate and show their support for the organization. Guests included Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley, State Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz, Ralph and Wing Delatorre, Holly and David Bruce, and Don Rodman. The evening raised nearly \$800,000 for Big Sister's mission of serving the girls of Greater Boston through gender-specific, one-to-one mentoring.

The night's emcee and Big Sister's newest board member, Lisa Hughes of WBZ-TV, kicked off the program by introducing a video featuring prominent Bostonians including Massachusetts Attorney General, Martha Coakley; Suffolk County Sheriff, Andrea Cabral; Harvard-Kent Elementary School Principal, Jason Gallagher; State Street Global Advisors CFO and Big Sister Board member, Juan Carlos Morales; State Representative, Jeffrey Sanchez; Managing Director of General Catalyst Partners and Co-Founder and Board Chair of the Greenlight Fund, John Simon; and Liberty Mutual Vice President and Director of Corporate Affairs, Melissa MacDonnell, all showing their support for the organization and identifying the importance it has in our community. Attorney General Martha Coakley introduced Wayne

Ashley, the father of four girls, all of whom are part of the Big Sister program.

Ashley, of Dorchester, shared a moving, personal story about his four daughters' experiences with their Big Sisters, highlighting their exposure to new experiences.

After dinner, 2012 Olympic Gold Medalist Kayla Harrison took the stage to share her journey of becoming the first American to win Olympic Gold medal in judo. She shared how her mentors guided her towards her goal despite personal obstacles. The Marblehead resident credits her successes to the support of her mentors.

The program ended with the presentation of the Believe In Girls Award to Dr. Paula Johnson, Executive Director of the Connors Center for Women's Health and Gender Biology and Chief of the Division of Women's Health at Brigham and Women's Hospital, and Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, for her continuous advocacy for the health and well-being of women and girls. The award was presented by Sharon McNally, Chief of Staff of the Connors Family Office and President of the Board of Big Sister Association of Greater Boston.

See video clips and a photo gallery from Big in Boston by visiting our website at www.bigsister.org



Top Right: Keynote speaker, 2012 Olympic Gold Medalist, Kayla Harrison with Little Sister Mickaella **Mid Right:** Suffolk County Sheriff, Andrea Cabral; "Believe in Girls" honoree, Paula Johnson, and Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz; **Bottom:** Big and Little Sisters sharing a moment with Kayla Harrison.

Big in Boston: Every Girl, a Masterpiece



Clockwise from top left: Jean Auguste, Thomas Patterson, Lisa Patterson, and Board member Robert Lewis Jr. Deborah and Tom Daccord dancing to the music. Linda Troutman and Morgan Randall with Attorney General Martha Coakley. Big Sister Evelyn Reyes and Little Sister Blasmy hitting the dance floor. Deborah Re, State Representative Jeffrey Sanchez, Brenda Sanchez, Ralph Delatorre, and Board member Wing Delatorre.

Thank you to our sponsors.

Impressionist Sponsors

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Holly and David Bruce

Christopher McKown
and Abigail Johnson



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Fundraisers Unite on September 29



On September 29 Big Sister participated in the Rodman Ride for Kids and Boston.com's Running with the Bridesmaids. The cold and rainy weather did not stop the 54 riders and 300 runners who came out and supported Big Sister. At the Rodman Ride for Kids, three new teams rode on our behalf: Team PGR, the Yellow Jackets, and Team Big Sister & Big Dad. The teams were represented in each level – from our brave 100-mile riders to our enthusiastic 25-milers – and proudly finished strong in both riding and fundraising. At Running with the Bridesmaids, every runner who participated wore their craziest formal dresses and enjoyed live music with some great prizes including a trip to Las Vegas. Both events raised nearly \$70,000.



Left to Right: Erica Alicandro and Jennifer Perrone at Running with the Bridesmaids. Big Sister Rodman Ride Team pose for a picture. Ali Dahlquist and Desiree Dileo from PGR Media. Big Sister Board Chair, Max Bardeen, at the starting line. Iga Sienczylo, Jennifer Perrone, Steffanie Gentile, Amanda Dezak, Board member David Bruce, and Morgan Randall. Big Sister Allison Rogers, Alexis Harvey, Peter Reinhart, Ryan Harvey, and Steve Stone.

The Holiday Season at Big Sister

To celebrate the holiday season, Big Sister Association took part in the second annual 31 Nights of Light at the Prudential Center. Big and Little Sisters and Big Sister staff danced, played games at the Microsoft Store and drank gourmet hot chocolate compliments of Jules Catering. The tower was then illuminated purple by Little Sister Ciara who "flipped the switch" in honor of Big Sister. The next day, over 150 Big and Little Sisters enjoyed our annual Winter Wonderland party at Faneuil Hall Marketplace.



Left to Right: Little Sister Jessica and Big Sister Amanda Rae at the Winter Wonderland party; Big Sister Erica Warner and Little Sister Justice enjoying hot chocolate; Faneuil Hall decorated for the holiday; Little Sisters playing Kinect games.

Conversations Among Women

On October 16, Big Sister Association's Diversity Council presented Conversations Among Women, Breaking the Glass Ceiling: Strategies for Women of Color sponsored by Boston Scientific's Hispanic Organization for Leadership and Achievement (HOLA) and supported by KPMG, LLP and Simmons College. Over 100 women participated in an empowering conversation with inspiring women who have confronted societal challenges and succeeded. Speakers included Yvonne Garcia from State Street, Denise Kaigler from Boston Scientific, Chekesha Kidd from Aetna Student Health, Inc., Betty Francisco from Millennium Sports Management and ALPFA, and Priti Rao from Mass Women's Political Caucus. The success of this event was evident not only in the number of women who attended, but also in the deep engagement between the speakers and attendees.



Left to Right: Attendees in conversation pre-panel; Group shot of the over 100 women who were in attendance; Amanda Martinez, Yvonne Garcia, Betty Francisco, Chekesha Kidd, Mia Roberts, Denise Kaigler, Priti Rao, and Ana Ruggie.





2012 MATCH MAKER CLUB

The following individuals, corporations, and foundations made non-event related gifts of \$100 or more to Big Sister Association between July 1, 2012-December 1, 2012. Thank you for your generous support!

Corporations, Foundations, and Organizations

The Ad Club
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Stephanie Coughlan
Susan Devlin
Debra Foster
Jennifer Herlihy
Colleen Keating
Philomene Murphy
Jill Patterson
Steven Rafferty
Maria D. Rocco
Susan Hubbard Ryan
Marianna Taylor
Beth Tenney
Martha Walton
Suzanne Wedel
Julie Wood



Fashion Show

Please join us on Tuesday, March 19, 2012 from 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel for our annual Fashion Show. Come watch models from the Big Sister community sashay down the runway in the latest fashions from Denise Hajjar's boutique! Supporting Big Sister is always in style.

Denise Hajjar
BOSTON



Guest Model Melissa MacDonnell, Liberty Mutual

The following Big and Little Sisters celebrated match anniversaries between July 1, 2012 and December 1, 2012. Congratulations to all on your lasting friendships!

12 Years

April Cook & Staci

11 Years

Leanne Palmer & Cora
Meg Sullivan & Champagne

10 Years

Holly Charron & Meghan
Susan Magocsi & Tiarra
Donna McCabe & Jarelis
Amanda Song & Mercedes

9 Years

Kerri Norris & Ashley
Allison Cirino & Brenda
Denise DeRoeck & Alina

8 Years

Aimee Floyd & Keysha
Dawn Lovato & Heather
Renee Corcoran & Samantha
Maureen McQuinn & Yvette
Eneida Roman & Migleila

7 Years

Marcy Ruda & Kelly
Dara Khan & Ashleigh
Neidine Lynch & Whitney
Kara Sweeney & Kelina
Jessica Roy & Janelle
Melissa Medeiros & Chloe
Michelle Cormier Tallman & Kyleigh
Alice Daly & Jasmin
Melissa Elmer & Lanelle
Adrianne Appel & Krystal
Connie Ramelli & Tatianna
Rebekka Lee & Tanaja
Joy Falk & Roseanne
Karen Barbarisi & Sara

6 Years

Kerry Dei & Kayla
Beth Deveney & Jennifer
Jessica Reardon & Victoria
Roberta Allison & Belinda
Katherine Chum & Jasmine
Mekkin Lynch & Asalia
Emily Boone & Elizabeth
Paula Shebest & Briana
Carolyn Vicari & Delicia
Melissa Graves & Amira
Rosemary Aylward & Joeanna
Molly Estabrook & Roxanne
Rose Jolicoeur & Kimberly

5 Years

Jen Maitland & Shelkilya
Sarah Bourgeois & Shakeyma
Kristen Rafuse & Margaret
Lisa Conley & Deirdre
Njoki Wamiti & Jalissa
Kari Russ Denitzio & Ashley
Candace Bon & Dyanna

Susan Brady & Rickiema
Sarah Coen & Cassandra
Michelle Duggan & Erin
Erin Fitzgerald & Ashley
Carolyn Thomson & Chakara
Kaitlin MacKenzie & Alicia
Mary Kohak & Autumn
Amy Tetreault & Cassie
Meredith Wolcott & Rita
Sophie Lehar & Crystal
Erica Crossland & Daejia
Jennifer Tenczar & Liliana

4 Years

Ashley Johnson & Sierra
Avisha Lalla & Ebonie
Meaghan Agnew & Nadira
Leslie Feagley & Christa
Judi Jackson & Alissabeth
Heather Edmonds & Kiana
Erin James & Brianna
Meghan Sharkey & Meryam
Amy Braun & Riley
Jenny Silva & Eleanor
Heather Cloran & Briana
Dawn Quinlan & Denishalee
Katie Kilbride & Jasmin
Rachel Riccardella & Ada
Allison Hackbarth & Miriam

Happy Anniversary!

Kimberly Strovink & Deonna
Alana Tyler & Calaya
Mary-Elizabeth Aylouche & Ricsairis
Kirsten Doyle & Alina
Jennifer Bellizia & Lucy
Michelle Gelinas & Alyssa
Magdelene Mazol & Kendrea
Julie D'Alessandro & Azhane
Mary McLaughlin & Alanka
Sara Bezanson & Caring

3 Years

Kerry Shannon & Selene
Kara Bowen & Ariana
Jamaica Kelley & Rakeima
Tara Pisani & Chrisleen
Emily Krusz & Maraina
Krisela Millios & Christina
Debra Savage & Olivia
Meredith Piotti & Mitchka
Margaret Connolly & Alyvia
Elizabeth Mucci & Ariel
Leigh Maroney & Stella
Samantha Cummings & Kayla
Connie Camann & Vivian
Kristy Guerrero & Shardonae
Kelly MacNeil & Paige
Kristen Shockley & Krystal
Barbara Miller & Deja
Lauren Auger & Angel
Linda Duchin & Danielle
Emily Artiano & Avigail
Elisabeth Egan & Maricelys
Karen Lubov & Yanni
Amy Malone & Chauntae

2 Years

Rebecca Brown & Jasmine
Amber Dame & Jasmine
Jennifer Siegler & Raiza
Jodi MacLean & Kally
Wanda McSmith & Dominique
Jessica Sedaca & Alexis
Mavis Hicks & Keshawna
Rosemary Centola & Portia
Carrie Allard & Mikyahla
Carol Kelly & Leeanna
Susan Gillam & Timi
Nicole Eisnor & Skiye
Shannon Hinegardner & Monet
Christina DiNardi & Jennifer
Irene Vogel & Jada
Gina Helfrich & Jameelsa
Austyn Mayfield & Natalie
Rachel Brown & Chionna
Casie Gillette & Ariana
Kathleen Ralston & Olivia
Amy Driscoll & Tatianna
Jane Peachy & Nastasha
Shinni Terry & Ashley
Bridgit Hutton & Talia
Jessica Kennedy & Norma
Emily Reedich & Karina
Victoria Wancel & Aliyah
Maria Berthaume & Gizzelle

Kara DeBlois & Alexandria
Megan Mariotti & Jeniffer
Sara Mirson & Makaylah
Darren Fleming & Zulmarie
Linda DeFranco Barck & Deeahna
Veronica Acevedo & Susana
Tarin Jackson & Sarah
Desire Langmead & Summer
Sarah Legendre & Adiely
Rachel Grich & Arianna
Abbie Duger & Jada
Bernie Schilling & Prema
Kristine Karkoska & Sofia
Alicia Handel & Hilary
Kaysha Bennett & Jheryn
Marisa Tagliareni & Myriah
Elaina Bashore & Gabriela
Andrea Antonucci & Gennessy
Jacqueline Ebbs & Winnie
Melanie Norton & Virvioly
April Penn & Oreangela
Erika DeRoche & Ronazia
Kate Anable & Sarah
Angela Lewandowski & Jennifer
Marie Abdella & Rajanique

1 Year

Kaela Vronsky & Leilani
Lauren Brown & Lindsay
Jennifer Orthman & Michana
Crystal Silva & Kylisha
Tina Wang & Nicole
Marianne Marquez & Madison
Jazmin Soto & Jalani
Daniela Lima & Dionna
Jacinta Patterson & Jaiden

Nicole Jacobsen & Brianna
Abby Barton & Djanilisa
Katherine Casey Martin & Ciara
Elizabeth Schrimpf & Monet
Meredith Johnson & Tahanee
Rebecca Ledford & Sequoia
Erika Gonsalves & Ajia
Emma Trivella & Ashley
Marion Westgate & Ashley
Trish Hagerty & Shelbbie
Taylor Dyer & Madison
Courtney Anderson & Zoe
Christine Yourell & Aneivah
Jessica Fernandes & Lisbett
Dimitra Chatzopoulos & Taya
Kristyn Rotchford & Jessica
Nancy von Borzestowski & Jacey
Lauren Eisenmenger & Asianna
Megan Opolski & Ilana
Christine Laskowski & Kyasia
Julianne Rogal & Shalice
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Ferdousi Faruque & Taneja
Shawna Ellis & Kiyara
Brittany Molloy & Diva
Kelly Bongiovanni & Ella
Lisa Blades & Ariane
Nancy Mahoney & Mary
Robin Tajjouti & Jonbenet
Ashlee Coyne & Elva
Cindy Collins & Aliyah
Leyla Skeith & Maria
Molly Jacobson & Tishanna
Liza Foley & Destiny
Ellen Barbour & Myesha
Anique Singer & Zabib
Emily Rose & Daysha
Joanne Censullo & Maya
Alyssa Criscuolo & Tatiana
Marta Pagan-Ortiz & Yuly
Bridgit Burns & Kianna
Yvette Philip & Emalina
Jesse McKenna & Storm
Cassandra Coleman & Jade
Madeline Green & Kenese
Anouska Bhattacharyya & D'vine
Mary Weinburg & Amanda
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BIG SISTER ASSOCIATION OF GREATER BOSTON

The Gift of Warmth

For the third year in a row, Big Sister held a holiday coat drive for the girls on our wait list. Thanks to the generosity of everyone who participated, 100 girls who live in Boston and the surrounding communities received a new coat in their favorite color; festively wrapped and delivered before the New Year.

Thank you to everyone who donated a coat!

Laura Aller
Nancy Armstrong
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Molly Brown
Rachel Brown
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Jasmin Lorenzo
Shakira MacLyons
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The Mandel Family
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Jessica Mendenhall
Stephanie Mendenhall
Alison Moskowitz
Chizanya Mpinja
Brett Murphy
Sarah Nolan
Megan Opolski
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Anne Re
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Mia Roberts
Kira Ross
Rebecca Ross

Meghan Sanders
Paula Sciabarrasi
Terrie Smith
Alyssa Soares
Christine Soares
Melanie Stone
Kelsey Taylor
Susan Thompson
Linda Troutman &
Andrew Anderberg
Karla E. Ventura
Erica Warner
Lesley White-Buefort
Hayle Ziobro
Heather Ziobro
Heidi Ziobro
Melody Ziobro



Our conference room quickly filled-up with brightly wrapped winter coats for our Little Sisters.