



**Online Newsletter**

**Fall Quarterly 2009**

**COMING SOON...**



**ANGEL TREE**

You can be a part of something  
**BIG!!!**

Wal-Mart customers, employees, and management are again working together with Big Brothers Big Sisters to make a joyous holiday for children in the BBBS program. Simply stop at the Kalispell Wal-Mart between Thanksgiving and December 19<sup>th</sup> to choose an Angel from the BBBS Angel Tree. Each one represents a wish from a local child. Purchase or make the item, and return it to the Wal-Mart service desk. Big Brothers Big Sisters will distribute the gifts to area children. Please help light up the lives of children this holiday season...there is no greater gift!

*Asset*

*Building*

Asset Building is a powerful way to help your little succeed in life. There are 40 Developmental Assets that give young people the strength they need to make positive choices in life even when they face stress & pressure. You are already helping to build assets in your child's/Little's life.

**Asset of the Month**

**Constructive use of Time:**

Volunteer in programs and activities for children...

“The mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Flathead County is to build caring relationships between children, volunteers and families to enrich their lives and their communities”

**Where do we get our funding?**

47% from Fundraisers like Bowl for Kids' Sake and the annual Dinner & Auction

23% from Individual Donations

15% from the United Way

10% from Grants

5% from Foundations

**We need your help to be able to serve more kids in the Flathead**

THANK YOU to the following recent business Donors!

- ❖ Arby's Foundation
- ❖ Flathead Rotary Foundation
- ❖ Marina Kay / Bay Club
- ❖ Microsoft Giving Program
- ❖ Rent - A - Center
- ❖ Smith's Earn & Learn program
- ❖ Weinrich Charitable Trust
- ❖ Windermere Whitefish

In addition, THANK YOU TO ALL OUR INDIVIDUAL DONORS

**Scholarship Money Still Available...**

We have grant funds available for children in our program to use. Some ways we can help...

Camps, Swim Lessons, Dance Lessons, School Supplies, Sporting Equipment, Karate Lessons, Sports Activities, Winter Clothing, Music Lessons

Or any other interest your child may have.

**Welcome Tim Sievers our new Executive Director...**

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Flathead County recently hired Tim Sievers to serve as the agency's new Executive Director. Tim comes to us from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saginaw Bay Area in Michigan, where he served as Fund Development Director. Tim also has experience in public relations working for the Michigan House of Representatives and Senate. Tim has been married to his wife Tracy Lee for 8 years and they have two daughters - Ainsley and Arabella.

“I'm really excited to be here in the Valley and I look forward to working alongside our dedicated staff, board and volunteers to strengthen the program and bring our life-changing mentoring programs to the youth of our community who so desperately need a positive, caring and consistent adult in their lives.”

Join us in giving Tim and his family a warm welcome next time you stop by the office or at one of the upcoming Bowl for Kids' Sake events.

*Growing up Female...*

*There is a Growing up Female class coming November 16<sup>th</sup>.*

*Call 751-8157 for more details.*

*BBBS is giving scholarships to Littles and their parents for this workshop...*

*Call the office at 752-0092 for more information...*

**NOVEMBER GROUP ACTIVITY...**

There is no formal group activity for November, so we would like to give you a few options to choose from:

- ❖ Help out with Bowl for Kids' Sake ~ choose a date and time from the pledge sheet. Get a team together! We also need lots of helpers to make this event a real success!
- ❖ Bell ringing for the Salvation Army ~ call them at 257-4357 to set up a time that best fits your schedule.



**Brag...**

LS Baylee played with a National softball team this fall...

Way to go Baylee!!!

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**RECENT BIRTHDAYS...**

BS Jessica	09/03
BB Paul	09/08
WL Sebastian	09/09
WL Jared	09/19
WL Alex	09/22
LS Tianna	09/23
BDM Toni	09/25
BB Jason	09/27
BS Jennifer	09/27
LB Judah	09/27
WL Tyler	09/27
LS Kendra	09/28
BS Amy	10/01
BDM Charles	10/04
LS Kelcie	10/10
BS Jodi	10/11
BS Olga	10/11
BS Sue	10/13
BB Chris	10/14
WL Matthew	10/16
BS Cheryl	10/20
BB Matthew	10/24
LB Connor	10/26
LB Logan	10/27

**UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS...**

BB Greg	11/03
BS Vicki	11/06
LB Dalton	11/07
LB Frank	11/13
BS Lisa	11/14
LS Justyne	11/20
BB JD	11/21
BDM Jen	12/02
BS Ariana	12/09
WL Sean	12/10
LB Uriah	12/11
BB Brady	12/12
BS Glenda	12/13
LS Jessalyn	12/14
LS Delani	12/18
WB Sherry	12/18
LS Caitlynn	12/20
LS Brazil	12/22
BS Sheila	12/29
WL Jarrid	01/01
BB Christopher	01/03
WL Sarah	01/03
BDM Lori	01/07
WL Ricky	01/08
LS Shelby	01/11
WL Christopher	01/12
WL Shannae	01/13
LS Brittany	01/16
LS Madison	01/19
BS Susan	01/22
LB Cameron	01/23
LS Emily	01/24
BS Sarah	01/26
BB Jerry	01/27
LS Tessa	01/27
BS Kathleen	01/28
LS Baylee	01/29
LS Nataya	01/29
BS Jessi	01/31

**Local statistics for 2009, gathered from the Program Outcome Evaluations completed by parents and mentors, show that children matched with a mentor in our community based program improved in 23 different areas. Below are highlights of the study:**

- 95% Show improvement in self - confidence.
- 93% Show improvement in being able to express their feelings.
- 82% Show improvement in their attitude toward school.
- 79% Show improvement in their ability to demonstrate trust.
- 78% Show improvement in decision making.
- 78% Show improvement in school grades.
- 67% Show improvement in their relationships with other adults.
- 67% Show improvement in their sense of the future.

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**Big Brothers Big Sisters is in need of Board Members to represent Columbia Falls, Whitefish & Bigfork. If you, or someone you know might be interested please call 752-0092 for more information or to request an application.**