

Resident Times Newsletter

April 2021

LMHA Offices Closed:

Friday, April 2, 2021

Monday, May 31, 2021

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lorain County



Big Brothers Big Sisters:
Could it be a good fit for your family?



What is the purpose of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lorain County?

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lorain County is a non-profit organization that provides LOCAL children and youth facing adversity with strong, enduring, professionally-supported one-on-one mentoring relationships that change their lives for the better.

Their one-on-one mentoring is a FREE, SAFE, and EFFECTIVE resource for families and children who want and need a positive and loving adult to be carefully placed in their child's life.

What services does Big Brothers Big Sisters provide?

Big Brothers Big Sisters' main function is providing one-on-one volunteer mentoring services. The same mentor provides 45 minutes to one hour of mentoring services to the same child once a week for at least one year. They recruit, screen, train, in-service, supervise, and evaluate adult volunteer mentors and some high school volunteer mentors. They also work with other non-profit and social service agencies in Lorain County to link the children and families they serve with other services that might be needed like mental and behavioral health services, food, clothing, medical and dental supports, job training, and more.

What is a "Big" and what is a "Little"?

A "Big" is a volunteer Big Brother or Big Sister that becomes a mentor to a child. A "Little" is a child or youth who has a desire to have another caring adult in their life.

How much does it cost to be enrolled in the program as a Big or a Little?

Being enrolled as a Big or as a Little is absolutely **FREE!**

How can people sign up to be a Big or Little?

1. Attend an upcoming open house! Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Lorain County will be hosting an Open House in your neighborhood this year!! More info to come.

2. Sign up on the website. Go to www.BigLoraincounty.org

3. Call Big Brothers Big Sisters. Dial (440) 277-6541 and ask for Brenda between Noon-5:00 PM.

What are the benefits of having a Big Brother or Big Sister?

When our Lorain County young people have a caring adult mentor in their lives and an associated network of people committed to their well-being, research shows: self-esteem soars, risky behaviors decrease, school attendance improves, graduation rates climb, more will go on to higher education and make better life choices, and families thrive.

What kinds of activities do Bigs and Littles do together?

Bigs and Littles can do all kinds of activities together. If they are interacting in a community setting, outside of school, they might explore common interests by attending socially distant sporting events or activities or they might take a hike or go for a bike ride. You can pick your own activities.

An example of a positive experience from Big Brothers Big Sisters

DANNY'S STORY: At eight years old, Danny was shy, withdrawn, and unengaged at school. Worse, he was the victim of bullying by other children who mocked him for where he lived and how he looked. A discerning school guidance counselor saw an opportunity and helped Danny enroll in Big Brothers Big Sisters. His new Big Brother, Brad, coached him out of his shell. Soon they were meeting once a week to talk, ride bikes, play sports, go swimming, do homework, and go out to eat and to the movies.

The bond grew and so did the benefits to Danny. His grades improved, he felt more confident at school, and he no longer got bullied. He recently graduated from high school and plans to go to college next year after he saves some money working a full-time job.

What are the goals for the future Big Brothers Big Sisters?

Big Brothers Big Sisters would like to work with more community partners like LMHA to serve more children and families in Lorain County.

FROM THE MANAGERS:

- * Please be a good neighbor; if you receive a neighbor's mail, please stick it in the outgoing mailbox to be returned to the post office.
- * Rent is due on the 1st of each month; if you are nervous about mailing it, you can take it to 1600 Kansas Ave. Mon.-Fri. from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. to the payment drop box **INSIDE** the office. The drop box outside of LMHA's Main Office is only for documents.
- * Be sure to complete your annual re-certification paperwork on time. If you live at Kennedy, Lakeview, or Riverview, these documents can be placed in their document drop boxes.
- * **Springtime is coming quickly!!** Be sure to keep up with your spring cleaning both inside and outside. Take care of your yard by picking up trash and any mess that your animal leaves. **REMEMBER** to pick up your children's toys at the end of the day and to supervise your children while they are outside.
- * **Per the lease, swimming pools, trampolines, outdoor play sets, and basketball hoops ARE NOT PERMITTED.**

To schedule an appointment to have your taxes prepared in-person, call 2-1-1, or (800) 275-6106.



LEARN MORE

Mentoring and Work Experience

Lorain County Community Action Agency has contracted with Ohio Means Jobs in Lorain County to provide mentoring and work experience services to young men and women ages 16 to 24. This programming works with youth by providing them with opportunities to serve their community.

Contact Ohio Means Jobs for more information at 440-324-5244.



Contact Amy Steele at: 440-204-3121 or at asteel@lccaa.net

Getting Ahead is designed to be individualized and confidence building while examining the many factors that hold people back, not just money. A wide variety of topics are discussed and the class uses Phil DeVol's book: Getting Ahead in a Just-Getting-By World. (Books and materials free).

Two groups are scheduled to start soon!
Group 1 begins on March 30th and meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4:30 PM.
Group 2 starts on April 12th and meets at 1:30 PM on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Update from Lorain County Health and Dentistry:

Lorain County Health & Dentistry is a state approved COVID-19 vaccine provider. Eligible individuals age 18 or older, please call the Vaccine Call Center at 440-240-2121 for up-to-date information or to schedule an appointment.



Identity Theft and Unemployment Benefits

Unfortunately, identity theft is a widespread national challenge. Many Ohioans have been victims and their identities were used to file fraudulent unemployment claims. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services offers the following resources to help both individuals and employers who have been affected, <http://jfs.ohio.gov/fraud/> As an alternative, individuals may instead call (833) 658-0394, 8 AM to 5 PM, Monday - Friday.

LCCAA ByCar Program and the Bike Shop

The ByCar Program helps income-eligible clients to purchase a used vehicle while learning savings strategies and vehicle care. Call 440-204-3151 today to apply.
The Bike Shop provides work experience opportunities for participants in the Youth Services Program as they repair and resell used bicycles. The Bike Shop is currently open by appointment. Please call 440-204-3190 and leave a message.

TIPS FOR SAVING MONEY:

- * Record your expenses
- * Set short term and long term savings goals
- * Decide on your priorities
- * Increase your savings routinely
- * Buy generic brands
- * Pack your lunch

Attention Residents

BULK TRASH IS ONLY TO BE PLACED OUT ON THE CURB ON BULK GARBAGE PICKUP DAYS. RESIDENT PLACING BULK TRASH OUT ON NON-BULK GARBAGE DAYS MAY BE CHARGED A FEE FOR REMOVAL.

Bulk Trash Pickup Dates are the weeks of:

- April 12-April 16
- May 10-May 14
- June 14 - June 18

Do Not Flush

Any wipes, even flushable ones, hygiene products, paper towels, medications, or toys.

ONLY FLUSH TOILET PAPER



Now Accepting Applications

The sooner you sign up, the sooner you can start SAVING money!

Contact James Jones, Public Housing FSS Case Manager, at 440-288-7433

Economic Impact Payments: 2021

Please be sure to file your tax returns and/or register with the IRS so that you receive your stimulus money. You can file a FREE tax return even if you have \$0 in income. CALL 2-1-1 for an appointment near you! FOR MORE INFO, check out the links:

- <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment>
- <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/economic-impact-payment-information-center-topic-b-requesting-my-economic-impact-payment>

If you would like help budgeting and using your economic impact payment to brighten your future, contact your LMHA Service Coordinator TODAY!
Resident Services: 440-288-7420

LMHA'S RESIDENT SERVICES

The Resident Services Department works with individuals, families, and the community. The Resident Service Department is available to share information with you about local community resources to assist you in reaching your goals and meeting your family's needs.

Do you need assistance?

Call Resident Services today!

Jackie Hatfield-
440-752-0128

Toshionna Reddick-
440-752-6611

Elizabeth Boardwine-
440-288-7437

Community Message Boards:

You may have noticed, but if you have not, check out our message boards. They have been installed in all of our communities and are located either by the managers' offices or by the elevators. The message boards share up-to-date information from the Housing Authority.