

# THE **BIG** UPDATE NEWSLETTER



# MATCH HIGHLIGHT

## Big Brother Mike and Little Brother Colten

have been matched since February, 2020. They share many interests, but mostly a passion for sports, and all things sports-related! Covid-19 "put the brakes on this match", especially when in-person meetings were not safe, but recently they have been able to reconnect.

Mike and Colten are currently making big plans for future outings and activities they enjoy doing together!

**THANK YOU to the Ontario Trillium Foundation for making our traditional matches possible!**



# COMMUNITY CARES



We would like to give a BIG shout-out and congratulations to our long-time supporter **Sharon & The VanderDuum Mortgage Team** for winning the Community Service Award, awarded by the Mortgage Awards of Excellence.

Over the years, Sharon and her team have consistently demonstrated their commitment to giving back and helping out their community.

As part of the award, Sharon selected Big Brothers Big Sisters of Clarington to be the recipient of a donation made by the Mortgage Awards of Excellence.

**Once again, congratulations and thank you for choosing us!**

# COMMUNITY CARES

A BIG thanks to **Big Sister Alana**, and her employer, **Petley-Hare Limited**.

Alana recommended BBBS Clarington to them as a "charity of choice", and along with their partner, Intact Insurance, they presented a cheque to us for \$3,600!

This donation allows us to continue providing essential and life-changing mentorship opportunities for young people in Clarington!

**Thank you very much!**



## SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS GIVING

At this time of year, our hearts are filled with the Christmas Spirit because of generous people like these young athletes and their families, coaches and managers.

**The Clarington Flames U9, U11, U13 and U15** teams have generously shopped to provide gifts, gift cards, food and treats for families in our community. The hampers arrive at our agency with parcels wrapped, decorated lovingly and in huge amounts!

Thank you to everyone who has donated and provided support to our families this holiday season. The Christmas Spirit is truly alive at this time of year and we are grateful!



# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS VIRTUAL GALA

On November 6, 2021, we held our 2nd Virtual Gala. Our Virtual Gala touched on “community connections” and the importance that those two words carry, especially during tough times. **“Community connections”** play a central role in many of our lives...connection between our Bigs and Littles (digital and in-person), connection between community partners and our agency and connection between one another—near or far.

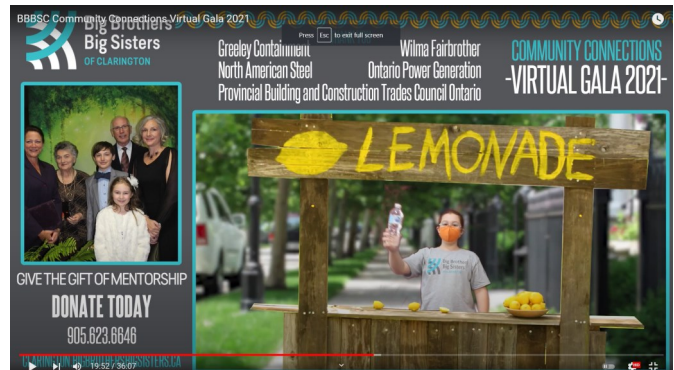
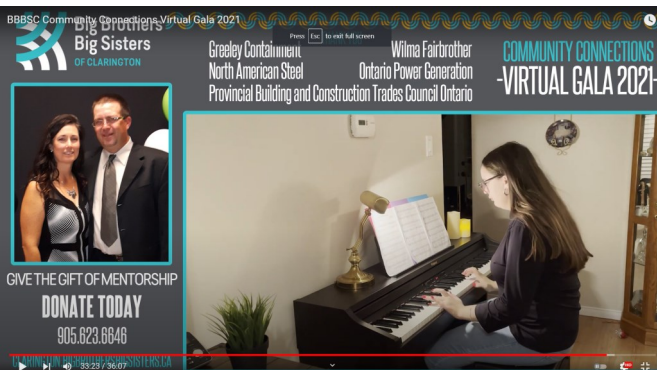
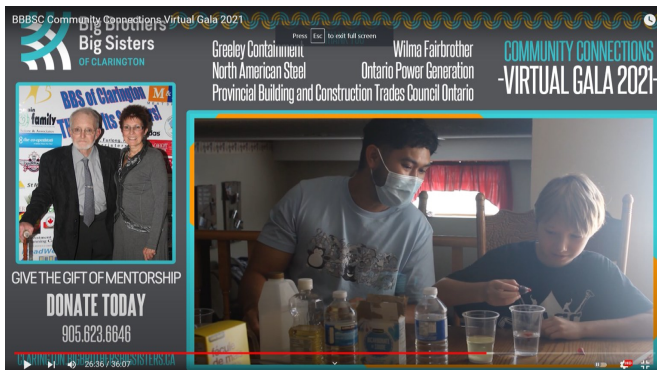
Community connections have been critical for all of us throughout these challenging times, especially for our young people.

Through stories, testimonials, guest appearances and musical performances, we were able to celebrate, highlight and thank everyone in the community who has made it possible for us to allow our matches to remain connected throughout the pandemic.

We would like to give a BIG shout out to everyone including our sponsors, VIP donors and video contributors. We would also like to extend a special thank you to our Master of Ceremonies, Steve Maddiss (BBBSC board member & former Big Brother) and Michaela Pagazani, who worked hard in creating and piecing together our virtual video gala.

With the support and contributions from all involved, we were able to raise close to \$30,000 which allows us to continue providing essential mentorship opportunities to the young people of our community. Thank you!

**Here are just a few special moments that were captured in this year’s Virtual Gala video:**



# ONLINE CHRISTMAS AUCTION

From December 1st to December 5th, we held our 2nd Annual Online Christmas Auction! Thanks to the generosity of our community, we were able to raise \$4,200 through the auction.

We had an awesome line up of items to bid on, including WestJet vouchers, Toronto Maple Leafs & Oshawa Generals tickets, golf passes to some of Durham's top-rated golf courses and much more!

We would like to thank all of our wonderful auction item donors who contributed to the success of this auction. Thanks!



## Become a **BIG BOOST** Monthly Donor.

The matches mentioned are only possible through the generous contribution of our community, including our Monthly Donors. You play a large part in helping the children and youth of our community to develop into self-confident, emotionally strong and socially-responsible adults.

**To become a monthly donor, visit:**  
<https://clarington.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/monthly-giving-program/>

## We Believe in the value of **MENTORSHIP**.

That is why we are always looking for new volunteers, especially BIGS! If you have a few hours each week to ignite the potential of a young person through one-on-one mentorship, please consider becoming a BIG with our agency!

**To start the process of becoming a volunteer mentor, please email us at:**  
[kids.clarington@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca](mailto:kids.clarington@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca)

Follow us on social media!



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