

Your Big Brothers Big Sisters monthly newsletter is here!



# The Big News

**Vision: BBBSOS envisions a community where all children have access to mentors to support individual growth and development.**

[Visit Our Website](#)



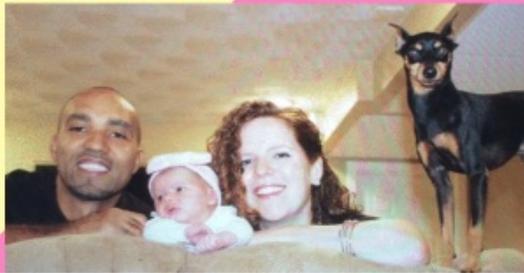
## **A Word from... Lori Viner Director of Operations & Administration**

Happy Fall! The new season has brought the arrival of apples, crisp cool air and pumpkin spice lattes along with a flurry of exciting activity here at BBBSOS:

- School is back in session. We welcomed back students from Bryant, Johnson & Wales and URI who will be mentoring elementary students in BBBSOS programs!
- A new "Beyond School Walls" mentoring program has launched with National Grid. 4th graders from the Lillian Feinstein at Sackett Street School in Providence will visit National Grid's office biweekly to meet up with their mentors and work on a STEM-based curriculum to foster learning and new friendships!
- Our very popular fundraiser, The Big Toast tasting event, was held on October 6th at Rhodes-on-the-Pawtuxet. Over 500 people came out to sample food and drink from 40+ local restaurants and vendors while raising over \$20K to support BBBSOS mentoring programs.
- And most exciting...BBBSOS officially marked its 50th year of service to the youth of Rhode Island on October 1st. Here's to the next 50 years!

Finally, I want to share news of a most special fall arrival... BBBSOS Executive Director Katje Afonseca and her husband Donaldo recently welcomed their first child Lua Rose. Lua, whose name means "moon" in Portuguese, was born on September 16th, a day that ended with a spectacular Harvest Moon. Join us in congratulating the Afonseca family and wishing Katje well as she takes some time off with Lua!

Welcome  
Lua



## David Fontes, CPA joins our Board of Directors!

We are pleased to announce that David Fontes, CPA has joined the BBBSOS Board of Directors. David, a principal at [BlumShapiro](#) in Cranston, has over ten years of public accounting experience providing tax, assurance and consulting services to clients in a wide variety of industries. In 2015, David was named a Top 10 Public Accounting Professional Rising Star by the National Academy of Public Accounting Professionals. Welcome David!



## 401 Film Fest

Big Brother Adam Theroux will be hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual 401 Film Festival on October 21st-23rd at The Arctic Playhouse in West Warwick. The festival showcases over 60 films from around the world, including 30 from RI filmmakers! The family-

friendly film showcase will take place on Sunday, October 23rd. This event is FREE to attend and ALL raffle proceeds go directly to BBBSOS! For more information visit [401filmfest.com/](http://401filmfest.com/).

Check out Adam's interview about the 401 Film Fest and his experience with BBBSOS on WPR!'s Street Stories here!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c0SXUkwqots>



**Big Brothers Big Sisters**  
of the Ocean State

**The 2016 BIG Walk**  
**'Harvest Hike'**  
5k walk/fun-run

**FREE family activities including:**  
**Face Painting, Coffee, Snacks, Pizza**  
**Goodie Bags for Kids, Crafts & More!**  
**Dog friendly!**

**Saturday November 5, 2016 at the**  
**Carousel at Roger Williams Park**  
**10am-1pm ~ Registration 9am**  
**Events@BBBSOS.org**

## 2016 BIG Walk 'Harvest Hike' 5k Walk/Fun-Run

Mark your calendar for November 5th! BBBSOS and The Rhode Island Trade Unions will be holding the 2016 BIG Walk at the Carousel at Roger Williams Park in Providence. This event benefits BBBSOS and is FREE to attend!

There will be free pizza, provided by Uncle Tony's Pizza and Pasta Restaurant, as well as Dunkin' Donuts, crafts and treats (and is even dog friendly)! You also have the chance to win a bike!

Registration: 9 a.m. Walk starts at 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Location: The Carousel at Roger Williams Park  
1000 Elmwood Ave.  
Providence, RI 02905.  
Use Park Ave Entrance

For more info on how to register, create a team, or get involved [Click Here!](#)



## End of Summer Celebration

Huge thanks to [Team RWB](#) who graciously volunteered their time to cook burgers and hot dogs at this year's BBBSOS End of Summer Celebration!! The event was held August 27th at Goddard Park with over 75 staff members, Bigs and Littles in attendance. Everyone enjoyed games, crafts, food and lots of dessert. Each

child was able to pick out a new pair of sunglasses and received school supplies. It was a great way to kick off the start of school!



## Fall Cleaning? Schedule your Donation Pick-Up Now!

The falling leaves of autumn remind us that now is the perfect time to let go what no longer serves us. The BBBSOS Donation Center will happily accept any gently-used clothing, shoes or small household items such as kitchen/home décor items, toys, books, etc... that you're ready to part with.



Our NEW and IMPROVED website - [www.DonateRI.org](http://www.DonateRI.org) - makes it easier than ever to schedule a free home pick-up of your donations or find a drop-off location conveniently located near you. You can also register to keep track of all your donations throughout the year.

Not sure if BBBSOS can take an item you might have to donate? You can find a long list of items that we are able to accept for donation on the website.



## Alex and Ani Bangle

Stock up now and get your holiday shopping done early! Alex and Ani and Big Brothers Big Sisters teamed up to create an exclusive bangle featuring the Little Dipper and Big Dipper. This bangle went on sale April 7 and is now sold across the United States and Canada (20% of all the proceeds will go to support Big Brothers Big Sisters). This partnership has been amazing! Buy it [here!](#)



## PeaceLove Creators

We are so excited about our new connection with [PeaceLove Studios](#)!!

In August, our Director of Outcomes and Engagement Heather Potter completed the PeaceLove "CREATORS" program which equips front-line professionals to deliver PeaceLove's expressive arts

curriculum. Expressive arts utilize visual art, sound, writing and movement to express feelings and emotions. Heather has begun facilitating PeaceLove's expressive arts workshops for BBBSOS Bigs & Littles.

In September, PeaceLove Studios facilitators conducted a storytelling workshop for the BBBSOS team. We learned so much and look forward to sharing more photos and stories about BBBSOS's story with you in the coming months!

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## Amazon Smile

Did you know that you can support BBBSOS while shopping on Amazon? It's easy to do and doesn't cost you anything! Just visit [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com), choose Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Ocean State as your charity of choice, and then shop as you normally do. Amazon will donate .5% of your purchase to BBBSOS. It's that easy!

STAY CONNECTED:

