

---

Monthly Newsletter  
Making Friends

---

*Message from Katje Afonseca,  
Executive Director*

Tiana Ochoa, MSW, LICSW, joins staff as Director of  
Mentoring Programs

I am delighted to announce that Tiana Ochoa has returned to our organization to lead our Mentoring Programs. She is a licensed clinical social worker with 14 years of experience in the social services field. Tiana is passionate about helping children and their families thrive and reach their full potential. Since graduating from college, she has worked to improve the lives of children and families throughout her various professional roles.



*Tiana Ochoa*

Tiana is committed to civic engagement and currently serves on the Rhode Island Latino Political Action Committee, Congressman Jim Langevin's Diversity and Equality Advisory Committee, and as President of the Guatemalan Center of New England. Tiana was born in Guatemala and moved to Rhode Island at age 15. She currently lives in Providence and enjoys all things New England.

You can reach Tiana by phone (401) 921-2434, Ext. 107, or by email [TOchoa@bbbsos.org](mailto:TOchoa@bbbsos.org)

---

*Little Moments. Big Impact.*



### Development News

David Fontes, CPA, CFE, MBA, guest writer and board member writes:



#### Tax Benefits of Qualified Charitable Distribution

Under the current tax law, retirees (people over age 70 1/2) can give up to \$100,000 to charity tax-free from an IRA and have it count as their required minimum distribution for the year. This is known as a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). QCD is ideal for those individuals that don't itemize their deductions and take the standard deduction. You still receive a tax benefit even though you don't itemize your deductions.

[Click here to read the full article.](#)

*If you would like to make a donation through an IRA, please contact Shannon Gamache Scurry, Director of Development & Community Relations, at [sgscurry@bbbsos.org](mailto:sgscurry@bbbsos.org) or (401) 921-2434, Ext. 104.*



**We change lives one donation at a time.**

Donate your gently-used clothing and household items and support mentoring for children throughout Rhode Island at the same time.

There's still time to make a tax-deductible donation of clothing and small household items in 2017! Bring your items to any local Savers store or visit [www.DonateRI.org](http://www.DonateRI.org) to schedule a home pickup or find a convenient drop-off location near you.

### Mission

To provide mentors to the youth of Rhode Island who will **motivate** and **empower** them to make positive decisions, **improve** academic results, **avoid** risky behaviors and **grow** in a way that will positively **impact** our community.

### Values

Our core values define how we conduct ourselves and our organization when interacting with the families we serve, our volunteers, our donors, our partners, each other, and the public at large. Our core values are driven by a desire to improve the lives of children in Rhode Island, and they will remain at the forefront as decisions and actions are made. Our core values define the culture within Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Ocean State.

[Click here for full document.](#)

### Vision

A community where all **children** have access to mentors to support individual **growth** and **development**.

### Stay Connected



Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Ocean State, 1540 Pontiac Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [mentoring@bbbsos.org](mailto:mentoring@bbbsos.org) in collaboration with

**Constant Contact** 

Try it free today