

# Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Douglas County, Inc.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Big Brothers/Big Sisters searching for volunteer mentors for at-risk children in Sept. 15 meeting**

Many children all over America don't come home to a parent who makes sure their homework is done or asks how their day at school went, but there is an organization working with volunteers to provide love and care for these kids.

Children from low-income neighborhoods or single parent households often feel lonely and neglected. When at-risk children and teens lack the influence of a caring adult in the household, they tend to gravitate towards getting into dangerous activities involving drugs or violence. The absence of love and care from a child's most impressionable years robs them of their innocence at an early age.

The variety of challenges that at-risk youth face continue to face have such a huge effect on their future and wellbeing that Big Brothers/Big Sisters Douglas County, Inc. is hosting an informational meeting for perspective volunteers Saturday, Sept. 15 at 10 a.m. in their office at 220 Main St., Lawrence, Kansas. The meeting will last approximately 2 hours and Big Brother/Big Sister officers will discuss how local residents can volunteer to become mentors to a child who needs adult companionship and guidance.

"We believe that all children- regardless of race, socioeconomic status, or family background- can achieve success in life and deserve the chance to be surrounded by a person who supports their dreams", said Big Brother/Big Sister executive director George Hand. He believes that the effects of these relationships last a lifetime.

Samantha Roy, 12, of Lawrence, Kansas, is a little sponsored through the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization. “Things were really hard before I had a Big but now life just seems to get easier”. Kids like Samantha are slowly finding that love that has been missing in their life through the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program.

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Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Douglas County Inc. matches children facing adversity with caring, adult mentors. Since 1904, Big Brothers/Big Sisters has been changing the lives of children as they’re receiving the love and guidance they need to prosper in life through the relationships with their Big.

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