

NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 10th, 2021



 **BBBS NEWS & UPDATES**

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Acadiana is kicking off our 2021 Big Draft Recruitment Campaign, and teaming up with the NFL to #InspireChange.



**INSPIRE
CHANGE**



THE BIG DRAFT

While the NFL is drafting the next generation of players, we are drafting the next generation of Bigs. If you know someone interested in becoming a Big, they can register for a [Virtual Info Session Here](#) to learn about our mission & what it takes to mentor youth in our community.



BBBS NEWS & UPDATES cont.



On April 30th, we will celebrate our "draft picks" with a Big Draft Celebration. We will have more details on the celebration soon. Help us spread the word by sharing our posts on social media!



FOR BIGS ONLY

REFER A MENTOR: Current Bigs can refer a friend to attend a Virtual Info Session and receive a VIP Invite to the Big Draft Celebration! VIPs will receive perks like free beer, pizza & swag at our celebration. More information on the Big Draft Celebration coming soon. If you know someone interested in becoming a Big, they can register for a [Virtual Info Session Here](#) to learn about our mission & what it takes to mentor youth in our community. Email choward@acadianabigs to let us know when you refer a friend!



ACTIVITY IDEAS



FARMERS MARKET

The Teche Area Farmers Market is open year round on Saturday mornings from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and on Tuesday afternoons from 2:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Experience our harvest of delicious homegrown produce and home-made products by area farmers, artists and crafters.

[Visit their website Here!](#)



PARTI GRAS WITH MCCOMBE-VEAZEY

The 2nd Annual Parti Gras. Happening February 13-14, 2021 from 12 pm to 5 pm at the Community House, 419 12th St, Lafayette, LA 70501. [Get more information HERE!](#)



LIVE-STREAM TRIVIA

These fierce women have empowered and inspired us all over the years. We're talking Moana, Ariel, Jasmine, Aurora, Belle, Merida, Rapunzel, Tiana, Cinderella, Pocahontas, Mulan, and Snow White. Disney Princess Trivia Live-Stream via Facebook on Saturday, February 20 at 7:30pm. Hosted by the lovely and talented Kara Oliver of Fairytale Journeys by Kara! No fee or registration required, just tune-in for the [Livestream on FaceBook.](#) Kids- please ask your Bigs or parents for assistance!



COMMUNITY RESOURCES



[Louisiana Sheriffs' Educational Scholarship Program:](#) Scholarships are awarded to graduating high school students where the sheriffs are members of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Honorary Membership Program. The goal of the program

is to provide assistance to worthy Louisiana students in furthering their education and training with resources made available through the program. [Apply by April 1st, 2021!](#)

This FREE 1-hour virtual class is facilitated by a certified Prevention Education Specialist that will help attendees gain valuable information about overcoming parental stress, and how to build & maintain a strong family by creating a healthy support network, and how to adopt Protective Factors proven to help Strengthen Families & overcome generational patterns of abuse. Numerous studies have shown that the presence of these protective factors can reduce the likelihood of abuse and neglect. This lesson is open to anyone interested, but specifically is delivered to assist parents and caregivers.





COMMUNITY RESOURCES

We have partnered with The Educational Dreamer to create [#TheDreamersCloset](#)! These closets are located at local elementary schools like JW Faulk Elementary, Evangeline Elementary and Alice Boucher Elementary & are stocked with items our youth need to succeed! You can drop-off these items at our office Monday-Friday from 9am-4pm

THE EDD SERIES
BIG BROTHERS & BIG SISTERS
OF ACADIANA

THE Dreamers CLOSET

Giving students the tools necessary to succeed.

ITEMS NEEDED:

Children's Masks	Toothpaste and Toothbrush
New Socks & Underwear	Hats, Mittens, and Scarves
Gently Used and New	School Supplies
Jackets, School Uniforms	Face Tissue
& Shoes	Hand Sanitizer

The items listed above will be donated to students in grades K-5 at local elementary schools in Lafayette Parish.

Monetary Donations: paypal.me/theeddseries	For more information: theeddseries@gmail.com	Donation Drop-off: 123 E. Main Street Lafayette, La 70501
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FAMILY RESOURCES

We know many parents are feeling the stress of supporting & providing for their children over the weeks & months to come. It can be difficult to find a balance during this stay-at-home order. We will try our best to provide any resources we come across!

- If your workplace has temporarily closed or you have been told to take unpaid time off, you may be eligible for unemployment benefits through the [Louisiana Workforce Commission](#).
- A crisis text line has been activated to provide FREE, confidential support for people 24/7. If you need to talk to someone, you can get connected by texting REACHOUT to 741741 to reach a trained crisis counselor who will help de-escalate, identify coping strategies and use active listening techniques to support you.
- The Current has put together a user-friendly [dashboard of information & resources](#) for families in the Acadiana Area.
- Find the latest Lafayette Parish [COVID-19 UPDATES](#) in English, French & Espanol.



Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions, concerns or requests!



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