



Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Columbia Gorge is a program of The Next Door

Bowl for Kids' Sake!

Saturday, March 13th, 2010, at 10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm, 2:30 pm, or 4 pm
Orchard Lanes, 1141 Tucker Rd., Hood River

Thank you for being a Team Captain and supporting Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Columbia Gorge. Bowl for Kids' Sake is our largest annual fundraiser and we hope to have 300 bowlers this year. This is a great opportunity for you to get together with family and friends for a couple of hours of fun while helping kids in your community.

Your partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters makes a difference in the lives of children here in the Gorge. Thank you.

As the Team Captain, you are the critical link between your teammates and Big Brothers Big Sisters. Here are some suggestions to help you recruit and communicate with your bowling team.

Recruit a team of 5 bowlers (yourself and 4 others).

Teammates can be found anywhere: co-workers, family, friends, church members, neighbors – anyone! If you know someone who is a Big Brother or Big Sister be sure to ask them to join your team.

Build enthusiasm and review guidelines

You will be provided with pledge sheets to record pledges. You can ask friends, family, co-workers, etc. We ask that each individual bring in a minimum of \$50, and anyone who raises \$100 or more gets a free Bowl for Kids' Sake T-Shirt! It costs Big Brothers Big Sisters about \$1,250 to match one child for one year. Together, your team can choose to support a match for 3 months = \$313; or 6 months = \$625; or one full year = \$1,250.

Remind teammates of the three ways folks can pay their pledges

- 1. Pay the bowler directly** with cash or check. Bowlers bring in this money on bowling day. *This method maximizes their contributions, giving the most benefit to the program.*
- 2. Pledge online** using a credit card or Paypal.
Go to www.nextdoorinc.org, and click on 'Donate Now'
Enter pledge amount
Under *Designation*, type in "Bowl for Kids Sake"
Under *Dedication*, type in Bowler's Name
Follow directions to complete transaction.
- 3. Check "Invoice" on the pledge sheet.** Big Brothers Big Sisters will send an invoice to the donor after the event.

Follow-up with your team at least twice before bowling day.

You will be contacted a week before the event with the time your team will be bowling so you can relay the information to the rest of your team. Give them all a final call the night before to confirm the time and remind them to bring their pledges & pledge sheets.

If you have any questions, please contact Kristin Reese at 541.308.2231 or bbbs@nextdoorinc.org.

Thank you for your BIG part in supporting Big Brothers Big Sisters!



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Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What's so great about Big Brothers Big Sisters?

A. Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Columbia Gorge **improves the lives of children by creating mentoring relationships.** Throughout Hood River, Wasco, and Klickitat counties volunteer "Bigs" provide friendship and support to their "Littles."

Littles and their Bigs, spend 8-10 hours every month doing things they enjoy, like fishing or baking. Volunteer Bigs must be stable and dependable, at least 18 years old and pass background screening. In-home interviews help match the adult's interests with the child's so the Big and Little have things in common from the start.

Big Brothers Big Sisters is effective because our professional staff members ensure that the relationships are safe and rewarding for everyone. Independent research reveals that after one year Littles are:

- 46% *less likely to begin using illegal drugs*
- 52% *less likely to skip school*
- 27% *less likely to begin using alcohol, and*
- 33% *less likely to hit someone.*

Research has shown that the length of time the Little and Big are matched is directly linked to the impact on the child. In 2007, our average match length was 30 months, while the national average match length in the U.S. was 21 months. Our "Bigs" and "Littles" are matched together longer! **This means BIG impact for our Littles.**

There is no charge to the children, families or mentors who participate because these Matches are supported by donors.

Q. Where does the money go?

A. Bowl for Kids' Sake is Big Brothers Big Sisters largest fundraiser of the year, providing about ¼ of our budget. All funds raised at Bowl for Kids' Sake stay in the Gorge and help us match kids with amazing mentors by recruiting volunteers, identifying youth, and creating and supporting matches.

Q. Who do I contact if I have questions?

A. Big Brothers Big Sisters Program Manager, Kristin Reese at 541-308-2231 or bbbs@nextdoorinc.org.

Q. How many people are on a team?

A. Five.

Q. When will we bowl?

A. On Saturday, March 13th, 2010, at 10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm, 2:30 pm, or 4 pm

Q. How do we raise funds for Big Brothers Big Sisters?

A. You will be provided with a **pledge sheet** to record pledges. You can ask friends, family, co-workers, etc. We ask that each individual bring in a minimum of \$50, and anyone who raises \$100 or more gets a free Bowl for Kids' Sake T-Shirt! It costs Big Brothers Big Sisters about



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\$1,250 to match one child for one year. Together, your team can choose to support a match for 3 months = \$313; or 6 months = \$625; or one full year = \$1,250!

Q. Do I collect the money?

A. Preferably, but there are three ways folks can pay their pledges.

1. **Pay the bowler directly** with cash or check. Bowlers bring in this money on bowling day. *This method maximizes the contributions made, giving the most benefit to the program.*
2. **Pledge online** using a credit card or Paypal.
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